

# THE U.F.A.

PUBLISHED BY  
THE UNITED FARMERS of ALBERTA

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF

THE UNITED FARMERS OF ALBERTA :: THE ALBERTA WHEAT POOL  
AND OTHER PROVINCIAL MARKETING POOLS

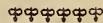
Vol. IX.

CALGARY, ALBERTA, APRIL 1st, 1930

No 7

## Legislature Endorses Principle of Public Ownership of Power

*Staff Correspondence*



## High Lights in House of Commons Debates *By W. T. LUCAS, M.P.*



## Official News from the Alberta Wheat Pool *A. J. McPHAIL on European Tour*



## News and Comment from the Livestock Pool *By DONALD MacLEOD*

# Gillette announces

## a NEW BLADE a NEW RAZOR

TODAY Gillette offers another great contribution to man's shaving comfort — a New Gillette Blade and a New Gillette Razor (patents pending).

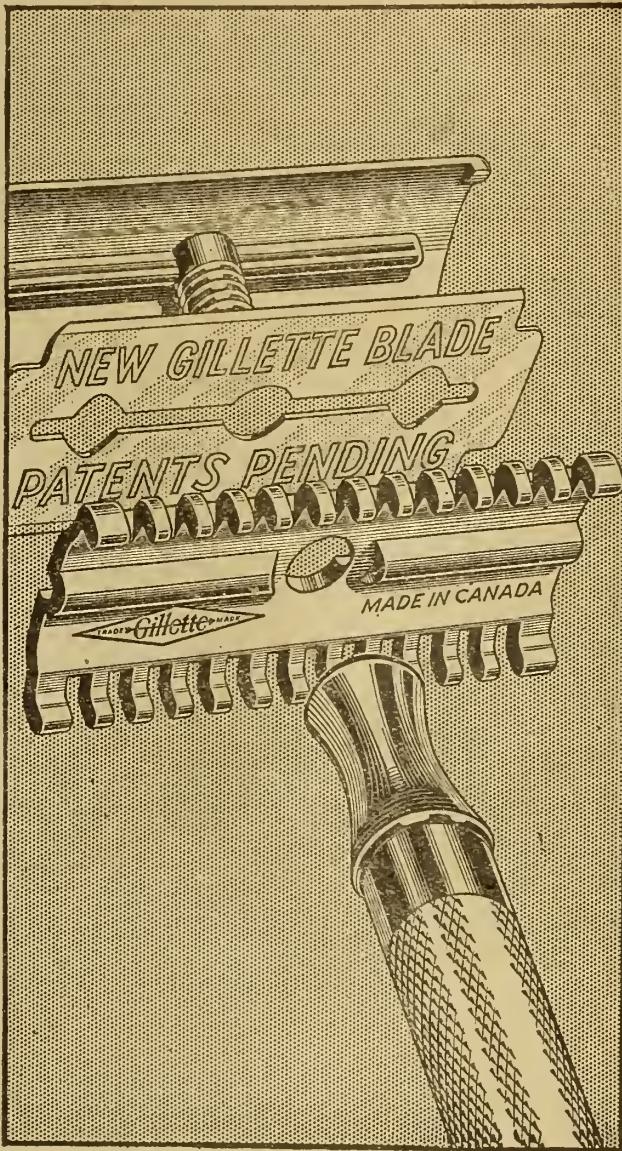
The new blade can be used in your present Gillette Razor.

Used together, the New Gillette Blade and the New Gillette Razor abolish forever two unpleasant factors in shaving — "razor pull," and the tedious drying of razor parts. These are only two of the advantages of the new razor and the new blade. Read the other advantages summed up under "Quick Facts."

GILLETTE SAFETY RAZOR CO.  
OF CANADA, LIMITED,  
MONTREAL.

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1. New blade can be used in your old Gillette
2. New processed steel; new blade resists rust
3. Cut-out corners of blade prevent "razor pull"
4. To clean, turn guard at right angles . . . then re-tighten . . . rinse . . . shake dry
5. New shape guard channel gives full shaving clearance
6. New shape guard teeth meet skin smoothly, naturally
7. No projecting posts to dull blade edges
8. Reinforced razor corners prevent damage if dropped
9. Square blade ends safer to handle
10. Shaves easier around mouth, nose, ears
11. New blades same price as old
12. New razor, 24K. gold-plated, with one new blade, in case, \$1.00



\$1.00

for ten  
and 50c  
for five



*The New Gillette Blade  
in the new green packet*

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## CIRCULATION

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THE UNITED FARMERS OF ALBERTA

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THE ALBERTA WHEAT POOL

THE ALBERTA LIVESTOCK POOL

THE ALBERTA DAIRY POOL

THE ALBERTA EGG AND POULTRY POOL

THE ALBERTA CO-OPERATIVE WHOLESALE

Editor

W. NORMAN SMITH

## ADVERTISING

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No discount for time or space

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Vol. IX.

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No. 7.

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## EDITORIAL

### ALBERTA'S POWER POLICY

By almost unanimous vote of the Alberta Legislative Assembly public ownership has been endorsed as the guiding principle to be followed in the development of the electrical power resources of this Province. The adoption, with only one dissenting vote, of Premier Brownlee's amendment to Mr. White's resolution on this question, marks, we believe, the settlement of one of the most important issues with which Alberta has been confronted since the earlier days in its history.

The views of the Government were very clearly and forcefully presented by the Premier and Mr. Reid. The transfer of the Natural Resources will remove all obstacles in the way of working out definite plans for the Provincial development of power resources. Investigations have been in progress for some time past, and the Government are looking for a man capable of taking charge of this work. With the advice of their technical experts they will undertake such development as from time to time may be economically sound and expedient.

The Premier paid a well-deserved tribute to Ald. F. J. White, M.L.A., the leader of the Labor group in the Assembly, who sponsored the motion which gave place

to the Government amendment. Mr. White has been a keen student of power problems for many years past, and has done much to crystallize public opinion in support of public ownership. This may be said also of many of his colleagues, both in and out of the Legislature. The Labor majority on the council of the city of Edmonton last year were able to render services in this regard of the first order.

The investigations which the Government have undertaken prior to the announcement of their decision will greatly facilitate the working out of future policy. Development will be carried on with a maximum of economy and of efficiency, and as far as may be in accordance with a comprehensive plan. The high standard established in the public utility today under Government control, has created public confidence in the ability of the administration to undertake the still larger task in the field of electrical power, while, in addition, guaranteeing to this and future generations of Albertans that the power resources of the Province shall be conserved and used for the benefit of the people as a whole, rather than for groups of private investors.

### PROGRESS AT OTTAWA

Resolutions adopted by the U.F.A. Annual Convention in January are now from day to day reappearing under front page headlines in the daily press of the Dominion. Translated to the order paper of the House of Commons by U.F.A. members or their colleagues, a number of these resolutions have been adopted, while others served to bring important issues of policy to the notice of Parliament, and through Parliament, the whole of the newspaper reading public. Where immediate attainment of our objectives has not been found possible, the way has been paved for future successes.

The Alberta farmers, through organized effort, first in the Locals, then in their constituency associations and the Annual Convention, and finally through their elected representatives, are exerting an influence upon national policy today such as no other democratic force has been able to exert since Confederation.

### PUBLIC OWNERSHIP OF BROADCASTING

(Red Deer Advocate)

The Radio Commission's report (in favor of public ownership) is in accordance with the expressed views of representative organizations such as the Royal Society of Canada, the Canadian Legion, the Dominion Trades and Labor Congress, the Professional Institute of the Civil Service, the Conference of the National Council of Education, the all-Canadian Congress of Labor, the United Farmers of Alberta, and many newspapers and trade interests outside those favored by the present system.

# NEWS OF THE ORGANIZATION

**Activities of U.F.A. Locals and District Associations and Information from Central Office—Notes on Co-operation**

## **U.F.A. Deficit Fund Now Totals \$778.96**

**Locals Send in Contributions Towards Wiping Out Deficit**

Contributions to the deficit fund total \$778.96, according to the latest U.F.A. Central Office records. In various communities socials, dances and whist drives are being arranged in order to raise monies for this purpose.

A whist drive was held recently at the home of Mrs. E. W. Brown to raise money for the deficit fund, reports J. L. Strang, secretary of Starline U.F.A. Local, and realized \$7.75. "Mr. and Mrs. Brown send you their best wishes and hope you will soon be on the other side of the books," adds Mr. Strang.

"Please find enclosed \$5 for the deficit fund," writes Mrs. Probst, secretary of Lougheed U.F.W.A. Local. "We, as a Local, feel that if each Local could send in a like amount the need would very easily be filled. This is a year when money is scarce, and we felt that it would be useless to consider an entertainment or tea just at this time."

Alcomdale U.F.A. Local are holding a whist drive the proceeds to be contributed to the deficit fund. At the last meeting, reports W. G. Purches, secretary, a resolution was passed supporting the efforts of the Alberta Good Roads Association regarding the reduction of automobile licenses, especially where cars or trucks are used for part of the year only.

"I am pleased to inform you that our membership drive has been a great success," writes John Sim, secretary of Wiese U.F.A. Local. "You will remember we had only 18 members last year, double the number of the previous year. We divided our members under two captains, Messrs. Gaugler and Robertson, and the result is that we have now about 54 members. Owing to the excessively bad roads, we had to adopt some methods that are costing the Local secretary a 'heap o' work' but it is a very satisfying kind of work when we see we have accomplished something. I am enclosing 20 Wheat Pool requisitions and \$20 in cash, which is over half of our members; and by next mail I hope to have another sheaf ready to mail. I think this is the best answer to the circular we had from you a few weeks ago, and believe if all Locals would do likewise, the deficit would easily become a balance. Here's hoping they may."

Previously acknowledged.....	\$489.61
Kirkdale U.F.A.....	10.00
Cornwall Valley U.F.W.A.....	5.00
Ensign U.F.A.....	15.00
Broughton U.F.A.....	7.00
Malmo U.F.A.....	10.00
Gemle U.F.A.....	7.10
Lavoy U.F.W.A.....	5.00

Poplar Hill U.F.A.....	10.00
Standard U.F.A.....	10.00
Buffalo Lake U.F.A.....	10.00
White Swan U.F.A.....	5.00
Majestic Springwater U.F.A.....	5.00
Carrot Creek, U.F.A.....	5.00
Calumet U.F.A.....	11.25
Water Glen U.F.A.....	11.20
Bow Island U.F.W.A.....	15.00
McLaughlin U.F.A.....	10.00
Lyncott U.F.A.....	18.00
Starline U.F.A. and U.F.W.A....	7.75
Lougheed U.F.W.A.....	5.00
Bonnie Brier U.F.A.....	5.00
Milo U.F.A.....	10.00
Elbridge U.F.A.....	11.35
Eastervale U.F.A.....	5.00
Notre Dame U.F.W.A.....	5.00
Verdant Valley U.F.A.....	10.00
Spirit River U.F.W.A.....	10.00
Wellington U.F.W.A.....	10.00
East Kleskun U.F.W.A.....	5.00
Excel U.F.A.....	5.00
Scandia U.F.A.....	10.35
Scandia U.F.W.A.....	10.35
Olds U.F.A.....	1.00
	\$778.96

## **U.F.A. Local Items**

From a membership of eight last year to 28 at the present time is the record of Universal U.F.A. Local, states the secretary, F. E. Bailey.

Scenic Heights U.F.A. Local have increased their membership over that of last year by 400 per cent, states E. H. Keith, secretary.

At a meeting of Argyle U.F.A. Local on March 22nd a resolution was passed heartily approving the marketing policy of the Alberta Wheat Pool.

Bradenville U.F.A. Local, at a meeting held at the home of E. E. Braden, decided to give a day's free work to raise money for the Local, says a report from Stephen W. Gilbert.

"At our last meeting," says a letter from John A. Jacobs Jr., secretary of Allister U.F.A. Local, "our Wheat Pool delegate, Mr. Clay, gave us a very good talk. We hope to have more of Mr. Clay's meetings."

"Since our hall burned down last fall we have been meeting in the home of our president, J. E. McDonald," writes G. L. Watt, secretary of Grimshaw U.F.A. Local. "At our last meeting we decided to build again, but smaller, and more like a club room."

"We had a well attended and interesting meeting last Saturday," states Mrs. Burton, secretary of Stanmore U.F.A. Local, "when two of the young folks—Amy Adams and Leonard Zinger—staged a debate. Both debaters had prepared their arguments well, and delivered them ably."

"Regardless of road and weather conditions the regular meetings have been well attended and very interesting," writes Mrs. Russell Johnston, secretary of Helmsdale U.F.A. Local. "We took in over \$40 at a pie social and dance given in January; we are having a play on March 14th."

Eight new member joined Carrot Creek U.F.A. Local at the last meeting, says a letter from the secretary, W. E. Irwin. M. Irwin, of Portland, Oregon, was a visitor, and gave a short talk on co-operation. At the next meeting there will be a debate: "Resolved that horses are more suited for this district than tractors."

Diamond Valley U.F.A. Local recently passed the following resolution, which they would like other Locals to discuss: "Resolved that we go on record as urging the Provincial Government to make it compulsory for all car and truck drivers to take out an accident and liability insurance policy, prior to the driver being issued a driver's license."

The entertainment of Irvine U.F.A. Local, in the form of exhibition boxing bouts, with a dance following, proved a

## **New and Reorganized Locals**

C. D. Lane is secretary of Lakes U.F.A. Local, near Neutral Hills, which was organized recently.

W. W. Wraight, of Veteran, was successful in re-organizing Throne U.F.A. Local recently. J. W. Ellerby is president and F. W. Sharplin secretary.

I. V. Macklin, director for Peace River north, organized Elmworth U.F.A. Local recently. G. S. Moyer is president and Mrs. Roy Macklin secretary.

Smoky Community U.F.A. Local, in the Bezanson district, held a meeting recently for the purpose of re-organizing. G. W. Ferris was elected president and R. H. Ramsay secretary.

Daysland U.F.A. Local, in Camrose constituency, was organized at a meeting held March 1st, thirty-three members signing the roll. D. Rabbitt is president and P. H. Forbes secretary.

Claremont U.F.A. Local held a meeting recently and decided to reorganize, states E. C. Palmer, secretary. J. W. Hurman is president and D. Eaves vice-president; there are 12 paid-up members, with every prospect of more. "I think we will have a 100 per cent sign-up," writes Mr. Palmer. "We have 100 per cent in the Wheat Pool. We were not represented at the recent Convention, but the following resolution was passed unanimously: 'That the Claremont U.F.A. Local heartily endorse the resolution passed at the recent Convention re the conscription of wealth, as well as man power, in the event of any future war, but that every effort and support be given to the preservation of peace'."

huge success, reports J. E. von Schmidt, secretary. On March 8th, James Murray, district agriculturist, addressed the Local and was tendered a hearty vote of thanks and a standing invitation to attend the meetings.

Beddington U.F.A. and U.F.W.A. Locals met jointly at the community hall on March 12th, when W. E. Turner of Calgary spoke on co-operation in England. Mrs. H. Banderob gave a paper entitled "Canadian Citizenship" and George Church, Director for East and West Calgary, gave a talk on U.F.A. work. The ladies served lunch, and the evening closed with a couple of hours' dancing.

The program committee of McLaughlin joint U.F.A. Local arranged a novelty concert on March 14th; "judging by the applause and encores," writes the secretary, Mrs. I. McLaughlin, "every item was a winner. After lunch, the floor was cleared for the dance, which was enjoyed by a large number of young people. The school was crowded and the financial returns gratifying."

Blueberry and Whitburn U.F.A. Local had a very good entertainment and dance recently, in aid of the piano fund, states E. G. Thominson, secretary, who adds "At our next meeting we are holding a debate, 'Resolved that it is in the best interests of the Province to abolish the Beer Parlors'; Mrs. Walter Mitchell and H. Walker will take the affirmative, and A. J. Gunaehe and I. G. Huston the negative."

At a recent meeting of Rio Grande U.F.A. Local Mr. Grafton, Pool field man, gave a talk on the market situation, and I. V. Macklin, U.D.A. Director, spoke on the benefits the U.F.A. has brought, and the need for holding together more than ever in the future. "We hold a whist drive after our monthly meeting," writes Percy Hunkin, secretary; "a very sociable time is enjoyed by all, and we have made enough money to get a set of card tables."

Elbridge U.F.A. Local sent their first order, of \$191, to the Co-operative Wholesale on February 12th. Returns were discussed at the March meeting, reports H. S. Brown, secretary, "and another order for \$200 was collected. Everyone was well satisfied, both as to price and quality of goods. We believe that co-operative buying will mean more to the farmers than co-operative selling. Please publish that this Local is not in sympathy with the propaganda that Carl Axelson is peddling through the country."

The membership competition between the Berrywater U.J.A. and U.F.W.A. Locals was won by the ladies, "hands down" reports P. J. Haslam, secretary of the U.F.A. Local. The losers are to entertain the winners in the near future. Four papers on the development of the Wheat Pool, written by school children, were read, and prizes were awarded to the contestants, Ethel Campbell, Annie McLean, Della Carr and Kenneth McLean. A program was given by Misses Annie McLean, Ethel Campbell, Margaret Oldfield, Freda Boulter, Master Gordon Campbell and Messrs. Sims and N. S. Campbell, following which the ladies provided lunch.

"Resolved that it is detrimental to the public welfare for women to earn an independent living" was the subject of a

debate between Beddington and Balzac U.F.A. Locals on March 21st, in Balzac community hall. The affirmative was upheld by Mrs. Shuttleworth, Messrs. Bert Church and Shuttleworth, while Mrs. Hayes Laycock, Mrs. G. W. Wall and O. Short took the negative. The judges, Rev. C. S. Pinder, Mr. Forrester of Airdrie, and W. N. Smith of Calgary, decided in favor of Balzac for delivery and English, and for Beddington for argument. The large crowd in attendance enjoyed the debate immensely, and also the dance which followed. Mr. Davies was in the chair.

A discussion on "Future Selling" took place at a largely attended meeting of the Calgary U.F.A. Local on March 27th, when W. McLeod, of the Alberta Wheat Pool, and W. J. Thompson gave able addresses. R. O. German presented a diagram prepared by the U. S. Department of Agriculture, showing that of every dollar paid by the consumer for bread, only one sixth is received by the wheat grower. Mr. German pointed out that it would require an increase of 60 cents per bushel in the price of wheat to warrant an increase of one cent per loaf in the price of bread.

Officers of Calgary U.F.A. Local for 1930 are: president Guy Johnson; vice-president, Wm. McLeod; secretary, R. N. Mangles; directors, E. R. Briggs, N. P. Davisson, R. O. German, F. F. McNeill, E. S. McRory, W. N. Smith.

Mr. and Mrs. H. J. Flock were guests of honor at a gathering held under the auspices of Raley U.F.A. Local, the president, Herbert Walter, acting as chairman. Mr. and Mrs. Flock, who for many years served as presidents of the U.F.A. and U.F.W.A. Locals, are

leaving the district. After a musical program by Misses Hazel Walter, Lilian Clausen, Helen Brown, Margery Flock, Margaret Ernst, Bernice Flock, Mr. F. Weatherhead and Mrs. Herb Walter, addresses were given by Messrs. Darby and Carson. The former represented the Raley old-timers and gave a number of interesting reminiscences, while the latter, representing the Woolford people, spoke of the active part taken by Mr. and Mrs. Flock in the U.F.A. and Pool movements. The chairman then presented the guests of honor with a Chandler pastel, expressing the hope that this token, hung above their new hearthstone, might refresh the memories of old friends. Refreshments and dancing followed.

Milo U.F.A. Local has met the problem of securing a good attendance by holding U.F.A. and U.F.W.A. meetings at the same time and place, followed by a social evening. John Glambek, secretary of the Local, writes as follows: "We held our first joint meeting in February, in the Union Church basement, when the delegates to the Convention gave their reports. As there was a ratepayers' municipal meeting the following Saturday, several matters in regard to improvements in the district were discussed, and delegates appointed to present the views of the Local at the meeting. This joint meeting was well attended. V. J. Bertrand, our past president, invited the Locals to meet in his new house in March; this was a wonderful success. The men met in the basement, the ladies, whose membership is almost twice that of the men's Local, taking possession of the upper rooms. Later, there was a program of games and lunch was served. The next joint meeting will be held at the home of James Burk, and the two Locals will debate on the new School Act."

## University Week For Farm Young People

### To U.F.A., U.F.W.A., and Junior Locals:

Preparations are being made by the Department of Extension of the University of Alberta for the twelfth Annual Conference for Farm Young People. The dates of the Conference this year are from June 4th to 11th, inclusive. The program begins on the 4th and it is therefore necessary that delegates should arrive the previous day. Any farm young person either girl or boy between the ages of sixteen and twenty-five may attend. The program and cost of attendance for the week is outlined in the enclosed pamphlet.

It is our earnest desire to make it possible for every farm boy or girl who is interested to take advantage of this valuable experience and we are sure the organization as a whole will lend its support. With the co-operation of our Locals we hope to be able to defray the railway fares of every one of our delegates. Surely we can engage in no more worthy activity than that of furnishing our young people with an experience which cannot fail to give them a new vision of life and service. Any boy or girl who wishes to attend at their own expense may do so, but will not have any voting privileges at the business session unless the Conference decided to grant this privilege.

### Method of Financing

Following is the plan adopted by the Central Executive to assist our boys and girls to attend the Conference.

1. Every Local is requested to contribute at least \$5 to the Junior Conference Fund, whether sending a delegate or not.

2. Every Local sending delegates will be required to contribute not less than \$5 per delegate.

3. If the Junior Conference Fund is sufficient, the railway fares of all delegates will be paid out of the Fund. If the Fund is insufficient to pay the total railway fare, the amount subscribed will be pro-rated among all the delegates.

We feel sure those Locals who have no young people within the age limit (16-25) will be glad of the opportunity to share in this investment in the future of rural Alberta. This is one of the most vital and far-reaching projects our organization undertakes.

Send in to Central Office, Lougheed Building, Calgary, all contributions and names of all young people who wish to attend the Conference. On receipt of your contribution we will forward you credential certificate, which must be filled in and given by the delegate to the registrar on arrival at the University. These certificates will entitle the delegate

to rebate on railway fare. At the same time write to the University of Alberta, Edmonton, giving them the names of your delegates on the form provided on the enclosed folder, or on a separate sheet of paper, giving the information required. It will be noted that the University request a \$1.00 registration fee which will later be deducted from the board.

We confidently anticipate an early contribution from you accompanied by the names of your delegates. We would also ask that the names of the delegates be registered at the University as early as possible. The University does not feel justified in holding the Conference unless at least 75 delegates make application. Therefore it is important that delegates' names should be sent in early, as delay interferes with the completion of plans

for the week and might result in its cancellation.

Yours fraternally,  
SENIOR COMMITTEE ON JUNIOR  
WORK,  
H. E. G. H. Scholefield,  
Mrs. A. H. Warr,  
Mrs. P. C. Hepburn.

#### SEND ADDRESS LABELS

Several cases of persons receiving two copies of *The U.F.A.* have recently been reported. It would be of great assistance in keeping the mailing lists correct, and in preventing unnecessary expense, if any others who receive two copies would send in to the office the two address labels which are stencilled on the front cover of the paper.

After some discussion it was decided that the convention when held, should be a nominating convention and the place agreed upon was High River. It was also decided that the representation of the various Locals at the convention should be on a basis of last year's membership as shown by the records at Central Office and that every five members or major portion thereof should entitle a Local to one delegate.

A committee, consisting of the presidents and vice-presidents of the two constituency associations, with H. C. Wingate of Cayley as chairman, was appointed to fix the date of the convention.

#### Official Statement by Alberta Co-op. Oil Consumers Limited

##### Broadcast Describes Plans of New Organization

The following official statement was recently broadcast by the Alberta Oil Consumers Co-operative Ltd.:

"Alberta Oil Consumers Co-operative Ltd., U.F.A. Offices, Calgary, wish to announce to all consumers that contracts will be available within a few days and will be mailed on request to U.F.A. Locals or local committees.

"A price list of lubricating oils and greases has been sent out with covering circular letter. Prices quoted do not mean the actual price to the consumer, as a patronage dividend will be returned to all members.

"We cannot too strongly advise groups of consumers who are considering buying co-operatively that they make no agreements without consulting Central Office.

"Districts wishing to hold meetings with a view to organizing can arrange a public meeting by consulting with Central Office to set a date for such meeting and Central will provide a representative to explain and give all the necessary information.

"We can ship immediately all orders received at Calgary office for Red Head lubricating oils and greases to any point in Alberta in tank cars, car lots or single drums or half drums, as per price list.

"We also wish to announce that the Alberta Co-operative Wholesale Association at Edmonton would like to call to the attention of farmers, Co-operative Stores and Lumber Yards, that they are now ready to ship dry, well manufactured spruce lumber in car lots to any station in Alberta at wholesale prices."

#### IMMIGRATION TO CANADA

Immigration to Canada for the ten months of the current fiscal year, April 1, 1929, till January 31, 1930, totalled 144,749, a decrease of 3,528 or two per cent, compared with the corresponding period in the previous year. Of the total 59,592 were British, 27,375 from the United States, 25,488 from Northwestern Europe and 32,294 of 33 other races. British immigration for the ten months under review shows an increase of 7,534 compared with the similar period in 1928-29; immigration from the United States increased by 929; from Northwestern Europe the increase was 257, while immigration from all other countries decreased by 12,248.

## Report of Educational Committee to the Annual Convention

The following report, submitted by the Educational Committee of the Central Board, was adopted by the Annual Convention.

Your Committee on Education wish to commend the efforts of those who are endeavoring to make a study of the fundamental principles of co-operation available to the school children of this Province in their regular school course. We feel that the economic structure of the morrow will be largely influenced by the outlook on life given by the schools of today. The competitive view point given by schools in the past has resulted in men at the top who do not know what to do with their wealth and those at the bottom who do not know what to do without it. We believe that the time is ripe for a more general application of the principles of co-operation in the hope that such application will correct many of the economic evils of today, the solution of which is not immediately apparent.

To make room for new material on the course, we suggest that a subject such as trigonometry could be made optional, and that the farm youth who failed to study that subject would not in consequence suffer any serious handicap in his adult life. The problems which will confront the citizens of tomorrow will not be solved by higher mathematics so much as by a higher outlook on life, and we believe that a study of co-operation does give a higher outlook and a better principle for the equitable working out of our economic affairs.

Of the present course in high school, we would say that the amount of material to be covered by the student in some of the subjects is too great.

We commend the new School Bill. We recognize that the education of all of the youth of Alberta is the responsibility of all of the people of Alberta. We recognize that ability to pay is a basis of taxation which is almost world wide, and that the new School Bill simply brings school taxation into line with taxation in its other forms. We realize that our University and normal schools are sustained chiefly by taxes gathered from the whole of the Province, and that the new School Bill simply proposes to sustain the rural schools out of taxes gathered in the same manner from the whole rural area.

Notwithstanding the fact that we have an equalization grant, there are many schools still unable to operate for the full school year. The changes proposed in the new School Bill will correct this unfortunate condition.

Of the salary schedule in the rural schools, we would say that while it is quite sufficient for the inexperienced who are just stepping out of Normal, it does not seem to be sufficient to retain the services of those who are eminently successful in that occupation. We feel that the importance of primary education would justify the retention of our most successful teachers at their present occupation even though it involved a little more expense. The proposed School Bill would make this more possible.

In conclusion, we submit that the new School Act seems to us about as well framed and complete as it is possible to make it without experience of its operation, and we recommend that the people of this Province give the said act a fair trial. We are satisfied that it will be better than the old system, and that any defects which its operation brings to light could be remedied by the Department.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

I. V. MACKLIN,  
(Mrs.) A. H. WARR,  
JOHN FOWLIE.

(The foregoing refers to the original bill, which, however, has been submitted in modified form on a voluntary basis, as indicated in the reports of the Legislative Assembly in this issue.—Editor.)

#### Okotoks-High River to Hold Nominating Convention

Plans for a convention of the constituency associations of Okotoks and High River for the purpose of bringing about union between the two, were considered at a meeting of the directors of these constituencies held at Okotoks on March 24th when W. G. S. Heaver of De Winton presided and W. R. Barker was appointed secretary. The joint convention is necessary in view of the merging of the two constituencies under the terms of the Redistribution Act.

# "Wheat--the Riddle of Markets"

A Book Review

"Wheat—the Riddle of Markets," by C. W. Peterson, editor of the *Farm and Ranch Review*, is a book to be read by Canadians who are interested in the problems of Canada's principal industry; and today not only every wheat grower, but also citizens of every other class, find in these problems, whose solution is vital to our national well-being, an all-absorbing subject of study and topic of discussion. The book contains an eminently readable and fascinating study of the subject by a Western Canadian whose interests for many years have been linked with the industry of farming, and who has been able to draw upon first-hand experience and an extensive knowledge of Western agriculture.

"The great, unsolved problem that confronts the wheat grower the world over is whether the production of wheat will presently outstrip consumptive demand," are the opening words of the preface. The 121 pages of ten point type which make up the book are devoted to the preparation of the reader for the author's answer to this question. On the whole, after endeavoring to strike a balance between prevailing tendencies in the field of production in many countries, and the tendencies to increasing population and the demand for higher standards of living, he does not seem to think it will. To accept this answer as conclusive would, of course, require a most exhaustive examination of all the relevant evidence and statistics—and some factors are incalculable—but the facts presented are significant and the book cannot fail to whet the appetite of the reader for further investigation of this important question.

The book opens with a short history of world wheat prices, from 1600 A.D. to the twentieth century, and, as is clearly shown, the "facts revealed are quite contrary to popular belief." In other chapters future trends are anticipated, and the Canadian Wheat Pools and their role are dealt with. The author is doubtful of the feasibility of "any worldwide organization of wheat growers for the sole purpose of exercising price control," but believes that "relief is possible without the power of a hundred per cent organization," and that "the governing factor is the export surplus, which is produced by comparatively few countries."

#### Pool's Selling Policy

Mr. Peterson quotes from various authorities, including a German periodical which has the reputation of being well informed on the subject, in vindication of the Pool's selling policy, especially in reference to the Argentine situation of the past year. This authority declares that "The policy of the Pool was, under the actual circumstances, the only just one," and that whatever the subsequent development this will "not be the fault of the Pool's selling policy."

In setting forth the necessity for the Wheat Pool form of organization, Mr. Peterson says: "No manufacturer could exist without some sort of control over the selling price of his product. The situation of the farmer is exactly the same. The farmer is obviously in a preferred position when the agency controlling the marketing of his wheat is wholly re-

sponsible to him for results. There can be no sound argument against the preponderating producing group within the nation taking up this very rational position."

In a chapter devoted to agricultural mechanization, the author expresses the opinion that we are only at the beginning of this process, and he quotes statistics showing that of late years the number of farmers in Western Canada has actually decreased while the cultivated acreage has increased. We are inclined to think that the statistics given in this chapter may have been factors in leading Mr. Peterson to abandon his former conception of what constitutes a proper immigration policy for Canada, and brought him more into line, in this respect, with the position taken by the United Farmers of Alberta over a period of many years.

Mr. Peterson's book will no doubt provoke some dissent. He punctures a number of current superstitions (such as those of the business man who believes that under any and all circumstances "diversification" and "intensive farming" are the road to the farmers' salvation). There may possibly be points at which his views will not coincide with those of other close students of his subject.

#### Not Agriculture Alone

In some respects his departures from orthodoxy are striking, and in others slight; perhaps without rather extensive departures it may be impossible to come to the heart of the problems of production and consumption. He comes very near to it, we think, in a speech by the U. S. Secretary of Agriculture which is quoted in the concluding chapter, to the effect that, not only in agriculture, but in industry as a whole, including products "as diverse as copper, . . . and textiles," and lumber, newsprint and other commodities, production has outrun consumption, and that "world buying power is not being maintained at a satisfactory level. Although overproduction in a single industry is a matter for correction within the industry, when overproduction becomes general in many lines, that fact constitutes prima facie evidence that it is the price structure, which in turn is governed by the monetary situation, that is at fault."

In this the U. S. Secretary of Agriculture, Mr. Hyde, and Mr. Peterson who selects the passage for quotation, seem to approach (though they do not pursue the subject to its conclusion) the position taken by H. E. Spencer, M.P., in the speech reported in *The U.F.A.* of the current issue, and by such critics of our present credit system as Major C. H. Douglas. But the problems arising from the inadequacy of consumer purchasing power in general are properly not the subject of this book, however worthy they may be of separate treatment.

The value of the book to the reader for reference purposes would have been enhanced if authorities had been given not only in some but in all cases where statistical tables and charts are used.

—W.N.S.

"Wheat—the Riddle of Markets" is obtainable from the *Farm and Ranch Review*, Ltd., price \$1.00.

#### ABOLITION OF POVERTY.

The abolition of poverty will come. It is indeed within measurable distance. Every step in the direction of co-operative marketing must tend to educate producers and consumers to see the advantages of Co-operation on a basis of each for all and all for each. The old belief that man must be governed by the warfare of "nature, red in tooth and claw" is passing. The discovery that there is an abundance for all when people work in harmony with Nature, may, in time, make a peaceful revolution.—*Ottawa Citizen*.

#### O.S.A. Distributes Seed

The Olds School of Agriculture, through its Experimental Union, is distributing seeds and plants listed below, free of charge, apart from the fifty cents' membership fee to the Union. Wheat, Reward, Garnet, Marquis; Oats, Victory, Alaska, White Cross, Banner, Liberty; Barley, O.A.C. 21, Trebi, Himalyan; Rye, Prolific (Spring), Rosen (Fall); Peas, Carleton, Golden Vine; Potatoes, Netted Gem, Early Ohio, Bovee. Each lot of the foregoing will consist of 4 lbs. Garden Peas, Progress, Perfection (4 oz.); Early Cabbage, Golden Acre ( $\frac{1}{2}$  oz.); Early Parsnip, Hollow Crown (1 oz.); Grimm Alfalfa (2 oz.); Raspberries, King, Turner, (12 plants); Red Currants, Black Currants (12 cuttings); Willows, Northwestern and Russian Poplar (50 cuttings); Caragana (50 plants); Manitoba Maple (12 plants); Timothy, Gloria, (4 oz.); Western Rye, Improved Strain (4 oz.); Turnip, Lord Derby, (2 oz.); Beans, Golden Wax, Refugee (2 oz.); Perennials (Assortment 12 roots); Annual Flowers, Coreopsis (mixed colors), Linaria, Baby's Breath and Chrysanthemums (small quantities of each).

Each member may obtain from one to five of any of the above. No orders will be accepted after April 15th.

#### New Days--New Ways

(By POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT)

Fifty years ago the ox cart lumbering laboriously along at the rate of about 4 miles an hour. Today, the air mail roaring through the heavens at more than 150 miles an hour. One minute a mere speck on the horizon, another and it is gone, rushing along with its messages of joy or sorrow, its prosaic business letters, or merchandise from the marts of the world.

The new Prairie Air link reduces the time for mail to reach Winnipeg by 21 hours, Montreal by 24 hours and New York by 36 hours.

The cost of this modern service is only 5c for the 1st ounce and 10c for each additional ounce on mail sent anywhere in Canada or the United States.

To Great Britain, the British Empire, France and all places in North and South America (except Canada and U.S.A.) the rate is 7c for the 1st ounce and 12c for each additional ounce. To all other countries the rate is 13c for the 1st ounce and 14c for each additional ounce.

Where it is desired that air mail be conveyed by air from England to any European country, India, or the Orient; or from the United States to Cuba, Mexico, the West Indies and any South American country, an extra fee is charged, and rates will gladly be furnished on request.

#### RAYON FROM BLACK SPRUCE

The slow-growth black spruce of Northern Canada, on account of its consistent yield of cellulose, has proved to be the most valuable wood in the world for the manufacture of pulp used in rayon manufacture.

## The Only Road to Permanent Peace

How the Glutting of the World's Markets Drives the Nations  
Towards War—"Peace Largely a Matter of Consumption"  
—The Newer Economics



A Speech in the House of Commons  
By H. E. SPENCER, M.P.

Two important contributions to the discussion of the causes of war are printed on this page. The first is the report of a speech made by Henry E. Spencer, M.P., in the House of Commons on March 6th, in which he set forth that reduction of armaments cannot itself ensure peace unless the problem of consumption of goods produced for the markets of the world be solved. The second, from a well-known British weekly periodical, deals with a special phase of this subject—the influence of the armaments ring. Mr. Spencer's speech was made during a debate on a resolution moved by Miss Agnes Macphail, M.P., asking that for every hundred dollars spent for war one dollar be spent to promote peace by setting up a chair of international relationships and by instituting international scholarships in each Canadian university. Miss Macphail, in the course of an eloquent and notable speech, made it clear that she was concerned less with the actual terms of the resolution than with its main objective. The debate continued during two succeeding days, and an amendment by William Irvine, M.P., was carried, referring the resolution to the committee on industrial and international relations for consideration and a report to the House. The resolution embodied a proposal made by the last Annual Convention of the U.F.A.

In the course of the debate Mr. Spencer said:

The subject under consideration is a very important one indeed, and our thanks are due to the hon. member for Southeast Grey (Miss Macphail) for again bringing it before us. Of course there are many views in regard to this question, but in the main there are two schools of thought; on the one hand, those who believe that the best way to prepare for peace is to be ready for war; and on the other hand, those who think that by cutting down armaments we can preserve peace. Personally I do not think either school is right. If I had to choose between them I would prefer to accept the opinion of those who believe in disarmament because less harm would be done at the outbreak of war; and in my opinion war is inevitable while present economic world conditions continue.

What are the causes of war? In times gone by we had religious wars; I think those are a thing of the past. We have had territorial wars; I think they also are of the past. We have had wars brought about by national animosity; surely with our peace conferences and the various arbitration and peace treaties of the last two or three years we have got beyond that stage. Then why is it that everybody thinks that war is inevitable? It is because people realize that most wars originate in economic rivalry. And when we have found what is wrong in the economic sense, and taken the proper corrective measures, we shall have made war impossible by removing the cause.

It seems to me, Mr. Speaker, that we have not given sufficient study to the result of the mechanization of industry. Today through that great revolution in industry, through the aid of science and invention, there is no difficulty at all in producing greater and greater quantities of goods with less and less man power. In other words, we are rapidly transferring the lead from the shoulders of men to machines. In doing this we are of course throwing more and more men out of employment. Even in Canada today we are up against a big problem of unemployment. This problem confronts the United States and Great Britain and most other countries of the world to a still greater extent. We have to recognize the fact that the payroll is the purchasing

power of the people, and if you cut down the payroll of the people you simply increase the quantity of the goods on the shelves that cannot be sold.

### Problem of Production Solved

The problem of production has been solved; we now have before us the problem of consumption. What is the usual suggestion as a means of getting out of this dilemma? The most orthodox suggestion is to produce more, to consume less, and to export the surplus. To my mind that suggestion is absolutely absurd. According to my knowledge of economics, with all the money paid out in the cost of production it is impossible to buy back the goods in the figure of price. At least some economists go so far as to say that we do not spend more than sixty cents of the producer's dollar.

If we have not the money to buy back the surplus goods we export, how are we to have the money to buy the goods that are imported in exchange for the goods sent out of the country? The biggest struggle in the world today is the effort made by all countries to find markets outside their own borders. In peace we have economic war; on the other hand it might well be said that "war is economic peace," because in peace times, with a curtailment of credit, you have not sufficient purchasing power to buy back the goods that are made. Credit is put in operation to produce more goods, but not to purchase goods, and therefore we are continually producing more and more goods for an already glutted market.

It is this struggle of one country competing against another for similar markets that is creating the economic warfare. When war breaks out, as it unfortunately does now and again, we have economic peace, because then there is no such thing as a consumer's problem. War is the greatest consumer of goods in a given time, and so we find that in war time everyone is pretty well off, everyone has money. Poverty is at its lowest ebb. If we do not have war, we have the accumulation of goods and increased unemployment.

### Fault in Credit System

In the last hundred years we have advanced tremendously in the matter of

industry; we have revolutionized the production of goods, but during that last hundred years we have carried on with an old credit system that was all right in the old days but which does not fit our conditions of today. As long as we stay with this policy of exchange that is out of date, then just so long shall we have before us the very serious problem of getting rid of the goods that are produced. Various suggestions have been made for the solving of this problem. Some suggest the elimination of armaments. That certainly would help to the extent that if war did break out fewer people would be killed in a given time; but if you take the people away from the making of goods, in the way of armaments, you increase more and more the number of unemployed. Another way to solve the problem is to get rid of people. Great Britain is doing her level best to migrate her people. The United States is doing her very best to keep people from coming into her country. The matter of birth control has also been suggested and yet none of these seem to me to be a solution of the problem.

In supporting the amendment to the resolution placed before the house by the hon. member for Southeast Grey, I do so because I think we might, in that committee, secure certain information that would be useful to the house. But I agree with the hon. member for Wetaskiwin (Mr. Irvine), that even if we do set up international scholarships, if the scholars are taught not along the lines of the newer economics but simply in accordance with the present methods of teaching—which, by the way, have brought us to this checkmate—then I say we would not be gaining our end. If we can ensure the teaching to the students of the newer economics, and if these students, with their ability, can go out into the world and preach those newer economics, they will be doing something to solve those questions which relate to the purchasing power of the people. The resolution is an excellent one and should be passed by the house.

In summing up, Mr. Speaker, I would say that peace is largely a matter of consumption. When we have solved the problem of consumption, made it possible for the people of the world to enjoy the goods of the world—which they are doing today only to a very small extent—we will get rid of the miseries of war and poverty and crime, and all those things that are detrimental to any nation, even to our own.

## Light on the Armaments Ring

By E. MIDGLEY in *The New Leader*

The investigations now in progress concerning the allegations contained in Herr Otto Lehmann-Russbult's book, "The Bloody International of the Armaments Industry" (published in Germany), is an appropriate moment to recall the statements made in this important book. Mr. Lehmann-Russbult has done a valuable service in destroying any lingering illusions as to the patriotic virtues of big business in wartime.

(Continued on page 52)

## High Lights in the Debates in the Federal Parliament

U.F.A. Group Seek Abrogation of Australian Treaty—No Federal Aid for Highways—Estimates to Go to Select Committees—Parliament and Divorce—Liquor Clearances



By W. T. LUCAS, M.P.

According to the rules of Parliament, when the Finance Minister wishes to go to Committee of Supply on the first three days of the week, he does so by moving the following motion:

That Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair for the House to resolve itself into Committee of Supply.

This is an ancient custom and preserves to the representatives of the people an opportunity to present grievances before granting supply to His Majesty. On March 4th, when said motion was moved, Mr. Senn, Conservative, moved the following amendment: "That all the words after the word 'that' be struck out and the following substituted therefor:

"In the opinion of this House Order-in-Council No. 1757 passed on the 26th day of September, 1925, respecting certain trade arrangements with the Dominion of New Zealand, should be rescinded forthwith and immediate steps taken to negotiate a treaty with that Dominion on fair and equitable terms."

In 1925 Canada negotiated a treaty with Australia in which the two Dominions extended to each other certain advantages in respect to lower tariffs. There was also a clause inserted in which it was stated that the provisions of the treaty could be extended to any other British Dominion. New Zealand took advantage of this clause and asked that the provisions of the Australian Treaty be extended to her, and the Canadian Government by Order-in-Council No. 1757 made the Australian treaty applicable to New Zealand. So that in effect it is the same as if a treaty had been negotiated with both countries.

Under the terms of the treaty the duty on fresh meats imported into Canada was reduced from 3c. to 1c. per lb.; eggs from 2c. per dozen to free; butter from 4c. per lb. to 1c.; honey from 3c. to free; tomatoes and other vegetables from 1½c. per lb. to free; also a reduction on some other farm produce.

In order to give Australian raisins a preference in the Canadian market, the general tariff on raisins was raised from 2-3 of one cent to 3c. per lb., and raisins from Australia entered free.

In return for these changes in the Canadian tariff, the Australian tariff was materially reduced on printing machinery, typewriters, cash registers, computing machines, newsprint, glazed and unglazed paper, iron and steel tubes, automobiles, gloves, corsets, goloshes, and on fish, dried, smoked or preserved. So that it will be noticed that what little protection the Canadian farmer enjoyed was removed in order to benefit the already highly protected industries. The Canadian farmer received no advantages in the Australian or New Zealand markets, but was subjected to a keen competition from these countries in his home market, and on top of this was compelled to pay 2 1/3 cents per lb. on all the raisins he consumed.

In regard to butter, in 1925 our total imports from all countries amounted to 198,341 lbs., while in 1929, total imports

amounted to 35,928,249 lbs., New Zealand sending 33,764,464 lbs., and Australia, 274,000 lbs. In 1925 total imports of meats was valued at \$4,984,456, while in 1929 it had risen to \$7,432,660.

A very funny situation developed during this debate. I might say here that an amendment on going into supply is always treated by the Government as a vote of want of confidence, for if it should carry it means supply could not be granted and therefore the Government would be unable to carry on. However, a Government which has a majority can and usually does what it likes, and on this occasion, no doubt sensing public opinion was being aroused over the discrimination shown to agriculture in said treaty, the Government had one of its own members move an amendment to the amendment as follows: "That all the words after 'be' in the fourth line be struck out and the following substituted therefor:

"Superseded as soon as possible by a treaty with that Dominion and that immediate steps should be taken to negotiate such treaty."

When the vote was taken we had the peculiar situation of the Government voting to defeat itself, and the opposition voting to save the Government. Under these circumstances and because of the fact that the Government had taken from us the right to move a sub-amendment setting forth our viewpoint, our group for the first time refused to vote on either amendment, but as soon as the Government again moved to go into supply, Mr. Gardiner moved as an amendment the resolution passed at our annual U.F.A. Convention, calling upon the Government to denounce the Australian Treaty. The debate at this time has not been concluded.

A very interesting debate took place on the motion of Mr. Kellner, asking

that the Federal Government consider the advisability of a further substantial grant for highway construction. The discussion centred largely on the construction of an all-Canadian highway. Strong arguments were put forth in favor of such an undertaking, but the Government maintained that this work belonged to the Provinces and voted solidly against it, while Conservatives and independent groups voted for it.

\* \* \*

On March 12th, the writer introduced a motion asking that the estimates be referred to select standing committees, before being submitted to the committee of the whole, the idea being that an economy in time and expenditure might be effected. It is hoped that in being able to call officials from any department before these committees, much more detailed information may be secured in regard to proposed expenditures. Under present conditions, hours are sometimes spent wrangling over a vote of a few thousand dollars, and then at the close of the sessions millions are rushed through without proper consideration by the House. I am pleased to say that this motion received favorable consideration and with a slight amendment was adopted.

\* \* \*

On the following day Mr. Luchkovich moved a resolution asking that the grant for technical education be continued for another ten years. The Prime Minister invoked the B. N. A. Act to show that education was a duty primarily assigned to the Provinces and stated the Provinces were to-day in a relatively better position to meet an obligation of this kind than ever before. The debate was not concluded.

\* \* \*

A very tense feeling has developed in the House this session over the Bill introduced by Mr. Woodsworth, having as its object the creation of divorce courts in the Province of Ontario. The purpose of the bill is two-fold, first, to relieve Parliament of the task of deciding upon and granting divorce; second, to place the granting of divorce in Ontario under the jurisdiction of the courts of that Province so that more effective methods may be followed in dealing with such cases to secure justice to the parties seeking divorce and to their children. When the bill came up for second reading, the vote was declared a tie, but was declared carried by the casting vote of the Speaker. A recounting of the vote indicated that there was one more vote against the bill than at first reported, which showed the bill lost without the Speaker's vote. However, in order to clear up any misunderstanding, William Irvine moved to have the bill restored to its place on the order paper and this carried by a majority of seventeen.

A bill introduced by Mr. Bourassa to amend the Marriage and Divorce Act, which apparently had for its object the repeal of the Divorce Act of 1925, which was passed by this Parliament for the purpose of putting the two sexes in the Western Provinces on a basis of equality, in so far as divorce was concerned, was i



W. T. LUCAS, M.P.

sm pleased to say defeated by a majority of fifty-six and was supported only by a few members outside the Province of Quebec.

On Friday, March 14th, the Prime Minister introduced Bill No. 15 to amend the Export Act, which has for its purpose the refusal of clearances of liquor to countries where importation is forbidden. The Prime Minister spoke at great length on the question and stated the Bill was purely a Canadian measure intended to safeguard the morale of our own public service and to do duty as we see it towards our neighbor.

The leader of the opposition also spoke at great length, and while he stated he would support the bill he severely criticized the Government for not taking action sooner, in view of the fact that the Customs Committee and the Royal Commission appointed in 1926 reported in favor of the refusal of clearances to the United States. He pointed out that while the Convention entered into between Canada and the United States in 1924 for the suppression of smuggling

between both countries had not proved satisfactory, the United States had made further representations to Canada, part of which were as follows: "It remains convinced that the only effective means of dealing with the smuggling problem along the border is the conclusion of a treaty amending the Convention of June 6th, 1924, to the end that clearances be denied to shipments of commodities from either country when their importation is prohibited in the other."

In view of the fact that the United States signified its willingness to negotiate a new treaty on the above lines, it does seem that would have been the most satisfactory manner to have dealt with this troublesome question. It would have been a reciprocal arrangement, while under the present bill Canada gets nothing in return for her action. While some doubt is expressed as to whether the present bill will have the desired effect, there is almost an unanimous opinion in the House that our Canadian officials should not lend their assistance to the breaking of the laws of a friendly neighbor.

**Editorial Note.**—Since Mr. Lucas' review of proceedings in the House was written, certain matters dealt with have come to a definite issue. A sub-amendment to Mr. Gardiner's amendment on the Australian Treaty was moved by Hon. H. H. Stevens, Conservative member for Vancouver Centre, urging the Government to take steps to revise the treaty. This was defeated on March 28th by 103 votes to 51; and Mr. Gardiner's amendment was then voted on, being defeated by 141 votes to 16.

On March 24th, Premier King intimated that a treaty designed to suppress the smuggling of merchandise generally between Canada and the United States was being negotiated between the two countries.

The bill to amend the Liquor Export Act, whose conditions are described by Mr. Lucas, passed third reading on March 25th, by a vote of 173 to 11.

Mr. Woodsworth's bill respecting divorce, which was restored to the order paper after being lost on division, has not as yet again come to a vote in the House.

## Some Further Features of the Wheat Situation

Grower Must Face Realities in Order to Meet Them Intelligently  
—An Important Address by Dr. Newton—Protein Content  
and the Overseas Miller—The "Equal to Marquis" Idea



By JAMES P. WATSON

We publish below the third of an important series of articles on the wheat situation by James P. Watson. Previous articles appeared in *The U.F.A.* of March 1st and March 15th.—Editor.

In these brief reviews of wheat conditions, readers will have noticed that there was nothing very original about anything said. It is only a process of repetition, until by and by it finds a subconscious level in the mind of the grower. The grower must understand the situation, and face it without illusion, if his power of resistance to adverse influences and his loyalty to his fellows is to increase intelligently, on the assumption that "it is better to take up arms against a sea of troubles, and by opposing, end them," than to be stampeded in ignorance back to the pit from which he was just emerging.

This article will serve two purposes; it will continue the discussion of the wheat situation, and at the same time give you the essence of an address before the Agricultural Committee of the Assembly by Dr. Newton, field crops professor at the University. Professor Newton was sent overseas by the National Research Council to investigate the feasibility of adopting the protein method of grading Canadian grain. So the thoughts expressed here will be mainly Dr. Newton's.

The reason for the venture overseas was because in the United States protein content had been successfully used as a factor in grading. This success was due to the general fact that the average protein content of U.S. wheat was low, and millers were prepared to pay a premium for the higher qualities. In the U.S. 80 per cent of the wheat crop is consumed at home. In Canada, 80 per cent is exported. In the U.S. the wheat is sold to the miller for the most part. In Britain the Canadian crop has usually

been sold first to the merchant, then by the merchant to the miller.

From this point Professor Newton asks questions of the British miller. Would you favor the adoption of the protein content as a factor in grading Canadian grain? What are your chief objections to it? Let us consider the replies to these two questions, as they bring out a mass of information on baking and baking systems. First, the miller and baker say there is no relationship between protein content and baking strength, and if no relationship, then its adoption as a system would be useless. They then compare the different kinds of bread in Canada with those in the United Kingdom. In Canada the structure of the loaf is different; it is set to rise with an elastic framework, retains the gas, and forms a well piled loaf with a very strong flour. In Britain and in fact all over Europe, they use a much weaker flour, they desire a smaller loaf with a closer texture, a mellow product; and certain officials in the baking industry had characterised the Canadian type as harsh and full of wind. The British loaf is composed of white wheats which in themselves are not strong enough, and high protein wheats such as Canadian are used in small quantities to give the dough a "lift." The higher the protein content the less quantity is needed to fill that function.

Main objections to the adoption of the test was that any such test in Canada was merely mechanical, and did not give evidence of quality as well as quantity. Millers were used to dealing with samples in their own way, a kind of wash test for protein and a baking test to establish its suitability for their purpose. They were emphatic in this, that they were getting their protection from our standard certificated grades. They knew what to expect when purchasing any of the contract grades, and they could base the baking strength of any flour on the num-

ber of sound, hard red vitreous kernel equal to Marquis contained in the certificated standard sample.

Get that "equal to Marquis" idea, for on that the professor built up an indisputable case for the preservation of the identity of different wheats, the danger of growing and mixing different varieties; somewhat reluctantly affirming against the qualities of Garnet. His investigation brought the information that 30 per cent of Marquis gave the same results obtained by the use of fifty per cent Garnet.

Apart from the impracticability of setting up a baking test allied with the protein factor in Canada from a marketing point of view, owing to the time feature, the main difficulty was the INNATE CONSERVATISM of the British baker against new methods. But that was not the whole story. There was the question of volume. High protein wheat is usually composed of small hard kernels. That meant less flour per bushel than from big starchy kernels. This, he said, was why Australian white wheat always sold at a higher price level than three northern. (The Professor is stating the case as from 1923 up until August, 1929. During that period the price ranged from 5 to 7 cents in favor of Australian, but from August, 1929, up until the end of January this year, Canadian, No. 3, was quoted 5 to 8 cents higher than Australian. And up to that time some 98 million bushels had been exported, so that some No. 3 must have been selling at these quotations.) Australian he claimed was much drier, containing several per cent less moisture, had a good color, and was desired on account of the extra brightness it gave the flour. These points were used to illustrate that strength was not the only desired factor.

Coming again to these United States and Canada, millers mill flour to a definite chemical standard. For bakery use that standard, is say, 13 per cent protein;

for household use, say 11 per cent. A wheat with a low ash content is desirable.

In Europe what is wanted is not a chemical standard, but a flour that can be said to have a standard BAKING BEHAVIOR. This is accomplished by getting wheats from all over the world, milling them in the test mills, baking, and so on, and it had been found over a long period that general satisfaction had been obtained from the use of from 40 to 45 per cent Manitobas. One large mill, during a low price period a year ago, used 70 per cent Manitobas, only to have received complaints from baker customers, and had to drop again to 45 per cent.

Dr. Newton visited the famous Lyons, Ltd., where he was shown figures which proved that Lyons preferred and used Canadian. When pieces of Canadian wheat went higher last year, Lyons imported Canadian milled flour to satisfy that desire. The manager of the bakery tried to introduce the bigger loaf a la Canada, but other bakers objected very strenuously.

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At this point a very discouraging element was introduced. In England, during the last struggle, millers had made use of larger quantities of cheap Argentinas to make up for a reduced percentage of Canadas. Manitobas had dropped to 25 per cent in some cases; in a few instances to 10 per cent, and Dr. Newton feared that it had dropped in one or two points to zero. Bahia Blancas were of exceptional quality. Even Rosafe was of splendid quality. But nevertheless this had been offset since by complaint on the part of the consumer of deterioration of bread, and a bold statement that it was no longer fit to eat.

Proposals to establish a single Canadian Demonstration bakery were futile. Bakers in England refused to consider the installation of the electrical high speed mixer as in Canada, a machine which subjected the dough to cave man tactics, and battered and broke up the globules or whatever it is in the gluten to make the loaf mellow. Why should they install machinery to make them use Canadian wheat if they had to pay a higher price for Canadian? That's a wow, can you answer it?

The importers preferred to stay on the present basis of Canadian certificate final, though a sore point was that a certificate issued at Fort William did not prevent tampering at Montreal. There was no appeal from final certificate as was found in the case of the fair-average-quality system of other countries. However, the professor thought the introduction of the 75-25 standard would rectify that. Wheat which was bought for future delivery could have no guarantee of protein content at time of sale to cover delivery say three months later.

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Leaving England the professor then went to foreign countries to ask questions. In Scotland he found a distinct preference for Canadian. The system here is quite distinct in that the millers grind wheats separately, preserving the identity of varieties from the various countries. Then the bakers do the blending to suit themselves. The long process is much in use, requiring a strong flour. But even here there was a tendency to reduce the period, and the Scottish Co-op. had obtained an average of  $\frac{7}{8}$  hours at its bakeries. This permitted the use of weaker wheats, and one type which was offering real competition to Manitobas in Scotland, as in Europe

generally, is what is known as Gulf hard red winter, grown in Kansas, U.S.A.

In Norway, the previous mix of 75 per cent Manitobas was being curtailed some. In France and Italy, where protective temporary tariffs were imposed to enable the sale of the exceptionally large crops grown at home, the millers said they were not interested in protein tests, as they would buy in the cheapest market irrespective of tests. Germany, with its scientific mind, was more favorable to the idea.

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Summing up, Professor Newton said that constancy of quality is the only hope of Canadian maintaining itself, and that constancy would find its own price level. Indiscriminate adulteration not only reduced the value of the adulterated but created undeserved price levels for the better qualities. Varieties other than Marquis should be kept separate, as this enabled the miller to temper properly before going to the rolls. Some used steam baths, some hot water, some cold baths, and so on, and certain wheats required these different processes and varying duration of tempering, so that mixing varieties here was detrimental.

## Wheat Pool Meetings

(By Pool Publicity Dept.)

April 1.

- Riviere-Qui-Barre—8 p.m., conducted by A. R. Brown and L. Normandeau.
- Aldersyde—8 p.m., conducted by E. E. Eisenhauer and W. S. Morrison.
- Borshchow—7 p.m., conducted by A. W. Fraser and A. D. Babiuk.
- Amisk—2 p.m., conducted by A. C. Walmsley and J. A. Cameron.
- Rosyth—8 p.m., conducted by A. C. Walmsley and J. A. Cameron.
- Compeer—3 p.m., C. A. Fawcett and L. Hutchinson.
- Winnifred—2:30 p.m., A. W. Framme, C. Jensen and N. Nelson.
- Whitla—8 p.m., A. W. Framme, C. Jensen, and N. Nelson.
- Hackett Model School—8 p.m., Geo. Chard with lantern.
- Jarrow—2 p.m., Andrew Holmberg, Geo. Bennett and J. P. Watson.

April 2.

- Egg Lake—8 p.m., A. R. Brown and L. Normandeau.
- Okotoks—8 p.m., E. E. Eisenhauer and W. S. Morrison.
- Padola School—7 p.m., A. W. Fraser and A. D. Babiuk.
- Loyalist—2 p.m., W. Wright and L. Hutchinson.
- Throne—8 p.m., W. Wright and L. Hutchinson.
- Lougeed—2 p.m., A. C. Walmsley and J. A. Cameron.
- Grassy Lake—8 p.m., A. W. Framme, C. Jensen and N. Nelson.
- Foremost—2:30 p.m., J. D. Madill and Geo. Bennett.
- Viking—8 p.m., A. Holmberg, Geo. Bennett and J. P. Watson.
- Wiese Local—Evening, George Chard.

April 3

- Morinville—8 p.m., A. R. Brown and L. Normandeau.
- Paraskewa School—7 p.m., A. W. Fraser and A. D. Babiuk.
- Coronation—2 p.m., W. Wright and L. Hutchinson.
- Poplar Park School—3 p.m., J. W. Laing and J. A. Cameron.
- Sedgewick—8 p.m., J. W. Laing and J. A. Cameron.
- Chin—2 p.m., T. P. Bowlby, C. Jensen and N. Nelson.

Coaldale—8 p.m., T. P. Bowlby, C. Jensen and N. Nelson.

Avonlea School—3:30 p.m., A. Holmberg, G. Bennett and J. P. Watson.

Albert School—7:30 p.m., A. Holmberg, G. Bennett and J. P. Watson.

April 4

- St. Albert—8 p.m., L. Normandeau.
- De Winton—2 p.m., E. E. Eisenhauer and W. S. Morrison.
- Shepard—8 p.m., E. E. Eisenhauer and W. S. Morrison.
- Chipman—2:30 p.m., A. W. Fraser and A. D. Babiuk.
- Wyoming School—3 p.m., J. W. Laing and J. A. Cameron.
- Barnwell—2 p.m., T. P. Bowlby, C. Jensen and N. Nelson.
- Taber—8 p.m., T. P. Bowlby, C. Jensen and N. Nelson.
- Irma—8 p.m., A. Holmberg, Geo. Bennett and J. P. Watson.
- Roseberry School—3:30 p.m., A. Holmberg, G. Bennett and J. P. Watson.

April 5

- Villeneuve—8 p.m., L. Normandeau.
- Iron Springs—2 p.m., B. R. Talbot, C. Jensen and N. Nelson.
- Lakeford School—1 p.m., A. Holmberg, G. Bennett and J. P. Watson.
- Carseland—2 p.m., E. E. Eisenhauer and W. S. Morrison.

April 7

- Lamoureux—8 p.m., L. Normandeau.
- Dalemead—8 p.m., E. E. Eisenhauer and W. S. Morrison.
- Hillock—7 p.m., J. T. McDuffe and A. D. Babiuk.
- Buczac—7 p.m., J. T. McDuffe and A. D. Babiuk.

April 8

- Beaumont—8 p.m., L. Normandeau.
- Langdon—8 p.m., E. E. Eisenhauer and W. S. Morrison.
- McDuffe—8 p.m., J. T. McDuffe and A. D. Babiuk.

April 9

- Leshniw—7 p.m., J. T. McDuffe and A. D. Babiuk.

April 10

- Myroslawna—7 p.m., J. T. McDuffe and A. D. Babiuk.
- McDuffe—8 p.m., J. T. McDuffe and A. D. Babiuk.

April 11

- Bruno School—7 p.m., J. T. McDuffe and A. D. Babiuk.

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## CANADA'S MINERAL PRODUCTION

The value of the mineral production in Canada last year reached a new high mark with a value of \$303,876,000, an increase of 10 per cent. over 1928. Records were established in 1929 in the output of asbestos, cement, clay products, copper, gold, gypsum, lime, nickel, petroleum, salt, stone, sand and gravel, zinc, and in the value of natural gas.

In order of total values the leading mineral products of Canada are: Coal, copper, gold, nickel, cement, lead, asbestos, clay products, silver, zinc, stone, natural gas, sand and gravel, lime, petroleum, gypsum, cobalt, salt, and platinum metals. The list of 19 products includes all that reach an output value of \$1,000,000 or more annually. Together they make up about 98 per cent of the total value of Canada's mineral production. In addition to these main products about 50 other minerals were recovered in commercial quantities during the year. Canada produces 90 per cent of the world's nickel; 85 per cent of the world's asbestos; 55 per cent of the world's cobalt; 9 per cent of the world's gold; 8.7 per cent of the world's lead; 8.4 per cent of the world's silver; 6.4 per cent of the world's zinc, and 4 per cent of the world's copper.

# Principle of Public Ownership and Control of Power Is Almost Unanimously Endorsed

Government Amendment to Labor Resolution Carried on Division in Legislature With Only George Webster of Calgary Opposing—Government Looking for Man to Take Charge

## STAFF CORRESPONDENCE

EDMONTON, March 18.—Definitely committing Alberta to a policy of Government ownership and control of power development, the Legislative Assembly adopted on Tuesday afternoon an amendment by Premier Brownlee to a resolution of Fred White, Labor Leader. The amendment was worded as follows:

**"Whereas the return of the Natural Resources of Alberta to the Province affords the opportunity to control the development of all water power sites in this Province, excepting those in the national parks,**

**"Therefore, be it resolved, that the Legislature give its approval to the principle of Public Ownership and Control of power development and is of the opinion that in framing policies for the administration of the Natural Resources this principle should be fully safeguarded, so as to facilitate the Government undertaking the whole or such part of power development and distribution as the Government from time to time, with the advice of its technical experts, may consider economically sound and expedient."**

The Premier stated that all obstacles in the way would be removed by the assumption of control of the natural resources by the Government this summer. Experts in steam and hydro power engineering had been at work for some time, said he. The Government was looking for a man capable of taking charge of power development for the Province.

The original motion moved by Mr. White and seconded by Andrew Smeaton, Labor, Lethbridge, was as follows:

**"Whereas, the return of the Natural Resources of Alberta to the Province affords the opportunity to control the development of all water power sites in this Province;**

**"Therefore, be it resolved, that this Legislature gives approval to the principle of public ownership and control of power development and distribution of same and is of the opinion that the Government should immediately consider the introduction of a Bill bringing such principles into operation."**

Support was given to the motion as amended by all sections of the Assembly, speeches being delivered in favor by Messrs. J. T. Shaw, D. M. Duggan, and Hon. R. G. Reid, Mr. Shaw taking the occasion to criticize the Government for delaying pronouncement. Out of the fifty-five members present, George Webster, Liberal, Calgary, who gave the only adverse speech, found himself alone when a recorded vote was taken on the demand of the Premier and others.

### WHITE PRESENTS CASE FOR RESOLUTION

In his opening remarks, Mr. White stated that he felt sure everyone was desirous of securing cheap energy. Alberta, said he, was in a particularly favored position in having at least three sources of abundant power, water, gas and coal. Of water power sites there were many. Authorities had said that in the Bow Valley there were potentialities for the cheapest power in Canada. Then there were sites close to Edmonton and again in the far north. Situated between these were coal measures and gas and oil deposits. He envisioned the possibility of bringing the benefits of electrical power to towns and hamlets and farm homes to a greater degree than was possible in other Provinces of Canada.

The opportunity was now definitely before the Alberta Government. They

would now no longer have to negotiate with another Government two thousand miles away. While Alberta had been awaiting this favorable development, other interests had been busy getting franchises. He hoped that the words of Sir Adam Beck would not be applicable to Alberta: "You gave away peanut stands and bought back jewelry shops." A corporation in the United States had recently estimated its franchises as being worth some \$30,000,000.

Mr. White went on to compare the publicly-owned systems with those owned by profit-seeking corporations. Where public ownership prevailed there was the greatest use of power, said he. In areas in the United States where the utility was in the hands of power companies there was the smallest use of energy per capita. In Ontario, the use of electrical energy was almost universal. The explanation was to be found in the rates charged. In Ontario the rate averaged 1.71 cents per kWh., while in the U.S. the average was 7.36 cents. In the United States 28 per cent of the users provided 68.2 per cent of the revenue of the companies. The policy of these companies was to make the small consumer pay the big rate, and the large consumer so small a rate that the bulk of the burden of maintaining the generating stations was borne by the domestic user of electricity. In Ontario, provision was being made so that, notwithstanding the cheap rates, the capital outlay would be taken care of in twenty years, and the system would be then so situated that the very best service at the cheapest possible rates could be given to the people.

There was no complaint, said the speaker, at the rates now prevailing in Alberta; but that he felt was largely due to the presence in the field of the municipalities. The demand for electrical energy was increasing at a very rapid rate.

Mr. White reminded the Assembly that wherever private capital had been allowed to develop this utility it had been

necessary to set up a public utilities commission or some such governing body to curb, control and regulate these organizations. He saw no reason for building up such interests and then building up another organization to watch them. Public ownership had as its motive the benefit of the people themselves. He recalled the fight the West had had to keep intact the Crows' Nest Pass Agreement. It was not always easy to keep a Government to the pledges of its predecessors. It would be found so in power matters.

In Ontario, said the speaker, they were planning to take power out to the remote districts. It might be true that Alberta would have a special problem in this respect, but even at that he was sure that the more densely populated areas would not have to pay as much under public ownership as to corporations having control.

There was another aspect of the question, said Mr. White, in closing. It had been found, particularly in the United States, that where private concerns had obtained control of this utility corruption followed in their wake. We were told by the proponents of private capital development that we should "keep this thing out of politics." He believed that the best way to keep it out of politics was to make it a public utility.

### PREMIER STATES GOVERNMENT'S VIEW

It was obvious when Premier Brownlee arose that his remarks on the subject were of more than usual interest. He paid tribute to the Labor leader's thoroughness in preparation when dealing with such matters. He always enjoyed hearing Mr. White. Last year the debate had dwelt largely on the relative merits of private and public ownership, and he, the Premier, would not enter that field. He wished to say at the outset that there had been criticism of the Government for not embarking on a policy of public ownership and distribution before this. He would venture to say that the Province would be in a better position than if they allowed themselves to be hurried into some big scheme prematurely.

Three principal questions had to be satisfactorily answered, said the Premier, before in his opinion a government was warranted in entering upon any enterprise of this character. First: were they able to find the necessary capital? Second: could experienced and efficient management be obtained and was the public willing to allow the payment of adequate salaries? Third: could they ensure freedom from political interference, and was there a willingness to allow development on sound economic lines? Answering these, Mr. Brownlee thought that over long periods the Government ought to be able to provide the necessary finance now that the railway burden had been lifted. He believed that public opinion had come to the point where it was easier for the Government to pay adequate salaries for technical skill. He felt that there was a

decided sentiment against political interference with publicly-owned utilities.

#### FIRMHATIC DECLARATION FOR PUBLIC OWNERSHIP

At this point the Premier came out emphatically with the declaration that the Government was in favor of public ownership. He believed that the Government could operate such a utility as efficiently as a private corporation, and could give back to the consumer in service and reduced rates what the private corporation would take in profits. They had been moving as rapidly as possible in this direction.

To be ready to undertake the responsibilities of owning and operating a power system, said Mr. Brownlee, had required certain conditions. First: confidence on the part of the people in the Government's ability to manage the utilities already in hand. This had been done in the case of the Provincial telephone system, which was admitted even in the East to be one of the best systems in Canada, equal to any in fact; second: confidence on the part of the public in the economic stability of the Province through the removal of some white elephants. This had been established by the sale of the railways; otherwise the capital expenditure could not have been justified; third: being in a strategic position to take over the projects now operating. Without control of the natural resources they could not have expropriated these projects and would have had to negotiate a price. This would have placed the Government under handicap; as the other parties would have been aware of the Government's inability to force them to sell. This condition had also been met. The Alberta Government was now about to be vested with the powers of the King in the right of the Province. The last obstacle would soon be passed.

The Premier then went on to tell of the investigations carried on during the year by a Prof. Christie, an expert in steam engineering from Baltimore University, who had been consulted by many governments. The Government had also arranged to retain the services of a hydro expert, a Mr. Akers, of Ontario, who was now at Ottawa collecting all information from the files there. Both these men had confirmed the Premier in the belief that power development in Alberta must be a monopoly, whether private or public. He counselled patience. Many problems had been solved and much progress made. The Government were prepared to face this one also. It would be the next big Government activity, if, as he expected, they were returned for another five years.

It was a question whether to acquire all control at one time or to proceed towards the goal step by step. With comparatively hard years ahead and many demands he was not sure that it was the best time. He agreed with the principles contained in the recital of the resolution, but not with the word "immediately." Before moving his amendment, the Premier stated that the Government was looking for some man who would not only be well enough qualified to take over the administration of the resources, but able to go ahead with the work of power development. In answer to Mr. Duggan as to the willingness of the public to allow Government to pay salaries equal to those paid by private enterprises, Mr. Brownlee admitted that some of these companies paid most exorbitant salaries; but stated that the Ontario Hydro had on its staff at least three of the best technical men in the power business in

Canada. He believed that public opinion in Alberta was as advanced as that of Ontario.

Opening his brief remarks somewhat sarcastically, J. T. Shaw, Liberal leader congratulated the Premier that the Government had arrived at this stage "after long deliberation." He knew of no reason why they should not have done so years ago, rather than have "investigated and struggled with this terrible problem so many years." He thought that the people of Alberta should have been "in on the ground floor rather than the swindle floor." People might have been spared many burdens if the Government had announced this decision years ago. They could not afford this dilly dallying with the problem. He himself would have had no difficulty in reaching this conclusion years ago. He hoped that now the Government was committed to the policy of public ownership, action would not be delayed so that the people would unduly suffer.

#### SOLITARY OPPONENT STANDS HIS GROUND

The Assembly showed its admiration of the persistency and courage of George Webster by applauding when he rose. Mr. Webster said that he had been waiting for encouragement but had found none, not even on his immediate right, referring to his leader Mr. Shaw. However, he was willing to stand alone if necessary. He granted the sincerity of those who espoused the principle of public ownership and claimed the right to be regarded as equally sincere in his opposition. He was convinced that it was a dangerous field to enter and did not believe that conditions warranted it. He also felt that the Province could not afford at this time to discourage private capital from coming into Alberta; and he felt that would be the effect of the Government's announced policy.

There could be no harm done, declared Mr. Webster, if such companies as were now in the field were allowed to proceed providing that they were properly supervised in the matter of rates. He was not afraid of any public service corporation getting out of hand if the Government was maintaining control. He contended that an analysis of conditions in such places as Ontario, Quebec and New York would show that while rates might be lower in Ontario, the taxpayer paid the difference in the ultimate either by direct taxes through the higher rates charged the cities by the publicly owned system or by loss of prosperity.

He asked if anything were being done to watch the development of future tax rate bases which would be affected by the big prices paid to some of the towns for franchises. He had heard that one company had paid as high as \$1,000,000. The Premier stated that these companies were operating under Dominion charters. The value of an asset could be determined when the time came.

Mr. Webster hoped that the Government would never take over these companies; but if they did he hoped there would be no watered stock. He reminded the House with reference to the Alberta Government Telephones that there was some \$22,000,000 tied up in that utility. He declared that the rates were unbalanced in such a way as would not be permitted by a private corporation. Calgary, for instance, was paying too much and many rural parts were not paying enough for this utility. He accused the Government of not going far into the remote sections with the telephone. They might better do this than go into

the power business. He asked that the Assembly consider the fact that an investment of one hundred to one hundred and fifty millions of dollars would be required. The Province would be engulfed with debt. Population was too sparse. There was not more than an average of one house per mile when there should be at least three. He contended that it cost five times as much to serve a rural customer as one in the city. In conclusion, Mr. Webster was of the opinion that if the Government would give attention to public health, education and roads, it would do much better than to go into the power business.

#### DUGGAN GIVES CAUTIOUS SUPPORT

"For once," said D. M. Duggan, rising to speak, "I find myself in complete agreement with an amendment offered by the Government." The situation lent itself to public ownership, he continued. Consideration along these lines had frequently been premature. The Province was now emerging from a difficult financial condition. He would not, however, embark on a power scheme till the necessity arose. The amendment clearly provided that if the experts engaged by the Government advised it sound to enter the field of power development and distribution, the Government could and would do so. When this was done, the Conservative party would give support. Though the Government had committed itself to the principle he thought it should carefully guard its steps. He hoped also that the Government would make clear that they did not intend to take over the system of the Calgary Light & Power Co. They should carefully guard the interests of capital by making a definite pronouncement.

Hon. R. G. Reid dealt with some of the criticisms offered, after first commending Mr. White on his excellent introduction to the debate. Mr. Shaw had accused the Government of "delay, delay, delay." He would point out to the honorable leader that every time in the last nine years that the Government had been accused of delay it had ultimately inured to the benefit of the Province. So it would be in this case. When the advisers of the Government would say that it was wise and expedient to embark on the policy of public ownership, either partially or wholly, they would do so.

Mr. Giroux: All the best franchises are grabbed now.

Mr. Reid: Franchises are but a small part of the picture. Power sites are the big factor; and no further disposition of water powers is being made in the meantime.

#### CAN'T FULLY CONTROL PRIVATE CORPORATIONS

The critics themselves did not agree, said the Provincial Treasurer. With Mr. Shaw it was "Too slow, too slow"; with Mr. Webster: "Too fast, too fast." The Government was in the correct middle position. With respect to Mr. Webster's contentions about Government supervision of private corporations, Mr. Reid said that he had recently read a statement by an authority that "there has not yet been devised by man, any Public Utility Board which can fully control such corporations." He had himself made a meticulous examination of rates of various power systems and found that the rates of Ontario were the lowest. Private corporations piled up stock which must have dividends and consequently higher rates.

It was contended by critics that there was more rapid development under private

ownership. The facts were that in Ontario one of the most marvellous developments had taken place that the world had ever seen. True there had also been big developments in Quebec, especially with regard to industry. There was authority for saying, however, that in the latter case not accessibility to markets only but availability of suitable labor had been a big factor.

In conclusion, Mr. Reid said that when embarking on a power scheme the Government would have to consider the matter of its being self-supporting. They would need to face the whole problem involved. He was of the opinion that it could be done without loss to the Province.

Mr. White accepted the amendment and the vote was taken as recorded.

Agriculture is Canada's outstanding primary industry, having a production value of nearly \$2,000,000 annually. When considered in relation to the subsidiary industries dependent upon it, agriculture is the real leader in Canadian enterprise. As an industry it provides gainful occupation, directly and indirectly, to more than fifty per cent of Canada's population.

## The 1930 Session of the Legislature in Review

**Alberta Not Being Ridden by "Too Many New Laws"—Taking Over the Resources—Public Ownership of Power—Pool Guarantee—The New School Bill—Mines Act—Frauds Prevention**



By NORMAN F. PRIESTLEY  
*The U.F.A. Staff Correspondent*

"Rather a dull session, don't you think?"

"Not much doing at the Legislature this year, eh?"

These and similar comments have been frequently made during the past six or seven weeks, both in the inside circles of the law makers and on the street; and to judge from a certain point of view it is true. The 1930 session has been marked by no bitterly contested, hard fought debate; nor has it provided any scandal; nothing in fact which justifies lurid, sprawling headlines, if anything ever does. That is not sufficient reason, however, for assuming that the session has been uneventful. On the contrary, the fourth session of the Sixth Legislative Assembly of Alberta may well prove to be one of the most important in the history of the Province.

Four measures affecting vitally either all of the people, or large blocks of them, have been presented. There is, first of all, the transfer of the natural resources. It is no small thing that Alberta should become in the twenty-fifth year of her age "mistress in her own household." With the formal ratification of this agreement by the Imperial Parliament, the Province emerges completely from her territorial status and takes rank in fact as well as in name with the other Provinces of the Dominion. To any who are accustomed to think in money terms it may be of value to note that this is probably one of the biggest real estate deals ever consummated. The ownership of over one hundred and forty thousand square miles of land changes hands. The administrative life of the Province will feel the change, which will necessitate the creation of at least one new department of Government.

In this connection it is to be noted that the Assembly passed a resolution committing the Government to the principle of public ownership and control of electrical energy. The effects of this decision cannot be adequately estimated but that they will be far reaching is beyond question.

Another measure of more than ordinary significance to the whole economic structure of the Province is the act guaranteeing to certain Canadian banks their advances on the wheat crop of 1929 to the Canadian Wheat Pool. The eyes of the world have been and are still focussed upon the struggle of the Canadian farmer to obtain a just price for the splendid wheat of which he reaped only some three fifths the quantity of the year 1928.

It must have been evident to all observers that a concerted attempt has

been made to destroy this co-operative effort. In the success or failure of the Pool is bound up the success or failure of tens of thousands of families on the farms, for the year 1929-30; and, what is more important still, the sustaining of their morale. Governments have recognized that the development of the co-operative spirit and all that is involved have been endangered. So it was that following a conference of Premiers Bracken, Ferguson and Brownlee, the three prairie Governments took similar and simultaneous action and placed their financial resources behind the Pool to the assurance of the banks.

\* \* \*

A third piece of legislation which is expected to have far-reaching effects upon the future of our people is the complete revision of the School Act in a bill presented by the Hon. Perren Baker. It is true that its chief provision, the setting up of a larger school administration area for rural schools is not mandatory, it being now left to be voluntarily undertaken by such districts as are ready for the reform; nevertheless the principle has received the assent of the Legislature, and it is not anticipated that the bill will be thrown out.

Education is recognized to be fundamental to the progress of a modern democratic state, and whatever the immediate results of Mr. Baker's bill, there is little doubt that a few years from now it will be recognized that in the realm of education the rural areas of Alberta made a very definite step forward in 1930.

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The re-enactment and thorough amending of the Mines Act will bring into conformity with present day ideas a body of law and regulations which affect directly the second largest industry of this Province. Whole towns and many villages with their thousands of working miners and their families will know something of improved conditions and greater security as a result. The ordinary user of coal has little appreciation of the extent to which it has been found necessary to define and guard by law in the minutest details the rights and very lives of those who sweat amid the dust and damp and darkness of the underground at great risk every day, in order that domestic comfort may be assured and industry and commerce carried on.

A measure not to be lightly regarded is the Security Frauds Prevention Act which has been re-cast this session. The new act will permit of more summary and drastic action to compel those who make a living in the brokerage business (which as Attorney-General Lymburn

said "offers peculiar opportunities to men who are disposed to be crooked") to do so in such a way that the interests of other citizens shall not be brushed aside.

\* \* \*

There are those who complain about the making of too many laws. Perhaps they have heard or read something of the doctrines of the philosophic anarchist. Not a few people who know nothing of philosophy are disposed to rebel these days against the tendency to too much regulation of life by the state. Few of us would be happy under a Mussolini. An examination of the work of the Alberta Legislature this session will show, however, that there is no ground for that thought here. "But," says someone, "the Assembly passed, or will have passed, some seventy-five bills this year." True! but let us make a brief analysis.

Of the seventy-five all except six, leaving out the new city charters of Wetaskiwin and Drumheller, are amendments, in many instances very slight, to existing statutes; or are consolidations or re-enactments of former acts. Under this latter heading come such measures as the School Act, the Mines Act, the Mechanics' Liens Act, and the Security Frauds Prevention Act. The life of this young country is of necessity changing rapidly, at a rate, perhaps, more rapid than that of the older communities of the world; and law can only be experimentally applied in many instances and then changed to meet the changed conditions.

Three of the six new laws passed or dealt with are really administrative in nature. They are the Natural Resources (Temporary) Act, an Act Respecting the Control of Electrical Energy, and the Unemployment Relief Act. With the first named our only concern is to say that some machinery must be set up to take care of the administration of lands, mines and fisheries, etc., when the control of these things is taken over from the Dominion this summer. The control of Electrical Energy Act is really a licensing act, laying down the Canadian electrical code, providing standards for the sale and installation of electrical supplies. The necessity for this can be well understood in view of the very rapid extension of electric power development throughout the Province. The Unemployment Relief Act has been rendered necessary by the expenditure this winter of large sums of public money and to provide for similar contingencies in the future.

In the final analysis then there are only three pieces of legislation which are new departures; and of these one, that providing for the Acquisition of Purebred Bulls, is really supplementary to

that presented by the Hon. George Hoadley last session—the Pure-bred Sires Area Act. In this year's bill Mr. Hoadley makes provision for the purchase and resale by the Department of Agriculture of pure-bred bulls to farmers residing in such areas. Another of the three is that of the Hon. Perren Baker which establishes the wild rose as the floral emblem of Alberta.

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The remaining act is the only one of those passed or under consideration which definitely establishes a new principle at law. The "Act Respecting the Removal of Sex Disqualification" was fittingly presented by Alberta's one lady legislator, Hon. Irene Parlby. The act provides that "Any person shall not be disqualified by sex or marriage for the exercise of any public function, or from being appointed to any civil or judicial office or post, or from entering or assuming or carrying on any civil profession or vocation, or for admission into any incorporated society."

A challenge to the right of Mrs. Jamieson, a woman magistrate in Calgary a few years ago, to act as such by reason of her being a woman, brought this question to the fore. After an exhaustive analysis of common law, Mr. Justice Stuart upheld her right. This act will set at rest, as far as Alberta is concerned, any doubt which may continue to exist.

It will be seen from the foregoing that Alberta at least is not being regimented and state ridden by a lot of new laws. The facts are that if the old method of presenting to the Legislature all amending acts under one bill for the amendment of statute law still prevailed, only some ten or eleven bills would have been presented this session.

## Members Pay Tribute to Brownlee's Leadership

An interesting little affair marked the close of the afternoon's sitting of the Legislature on Friday, March 21st. From the Press Gallery Gordon Forster, of Handhills, could be seen during the hour preceding adjournment moving around among the U.F.A. members, sitting next to each one in turn as the committee wended its way through the stages of the School Act. He carried with him a thin green backed book cover, after perusing which the members affixed their signatures. He worked quietly, resting between times, then moving again.

The staff correspondent of *The U.F.A.* going down into the corridors upon adjournment found something afoot. A meeting of the U.F.A. members was being held, though it was almost seven o'clock, and every one was hungry and tired. Now the Council Chamber, where such conferences—the Opposition members prefer the word "caucuses"—are held, is sanctum sanctorum even to the representative of *The U.F.A.* at such times; but kind friends seeing the wistful look, no doubt, let him in on the secret though not into the room.

It was supposed to be a business meeting; but after a few preliminaries, we understand, Gordon Forster rose and addressed Mr. Brownlee somewhat as follows: "We, the Farmer members of the Legislature, in meeting assembled, desire to express our continued appreciation of the work and leadership of our Premier and assure him of our loyalty and support in the future." He then handed to the Premier the little booklet with the signatures of the entire U.F.A. group

attached, subscribing to those sentiments.

Mr. Brownlee briefly replied, thanking the members and assuring them that it was a pleasure to lead such loyal followers. He believed that no Premier in Canada had ever been supported by a more loyal and faithful group.

The esteem so simply and unostentatiously expressed will no doubt help to brighten the life and lighten the load of the big man upon whose shoulders rest so large a share of the responsibility of carrying on the public affairs of this young and expanding Province of Alberta.—N. F. P.

### SOCIAL INSURANCE

The question of Canada's possible future need of some system of health insurance similar to that in vogue in Great Britain, will be a prominent subject of discussion at the forthcoming Annual Meeting of the Canadian Social Hygiene Council, to be held in Toronto from April 29th to May 2nd, inclusive, states

the bulletin of the Canadian Social Hygiene Council.

The British system provides for the compulsory payment of a small weekly sum by every employed person receiving less than a stipulated wage. Such persons are then given free hospitalization, free medical service, free medicine, nursing, all of which is paid for by the government.

"What system of health insurance should be adopted in Canada or indeed, whether any such system is advisable at the present time, we do not feel prepared to state now," said Dr. Gordon Bates, General Secretary of the Council. "But public health authorities, and others in a position to know, feel sure that sooner or later Canada is likely to have some form of health insurance, and our purpose in discussing it at our Dominion-wide Annual Meeting at the end of April, is to so co-ordinate upon this nationally-important question the attention of those who realize its importance, that when the time comes to take definite action, we will have a plan of action ready, and be prepared to act in unison."

## The Risks of Credit Trading

(From Canadian Co-operator)

One of the virtues of Co-operation is its greatest weakness. In private business the policy of the proprietor is dictated by his desire to make profit out of the consumer. There is no real community of interest between them. The aim of the co-operative society, on the other hand, is to serve its members. It exists for that purpose only. There is, in consequence, often the inclination to give them aid which is not justified by sound business considerations. In the past, many co-operative societies have met disaster immediately after the close of a period of depression. They have sought unduly to assist their members with credit accommodation while passing through it. On a return of greater commercial activity they have found they could not meet the pressure upon them promptly to discharge their own liabilities, owing to having so much of their resources in a "frozen" condition, that is to say tied up in book debts not immediately collectable.

We are now passing through such a period of depression. Great care is consequently necessary in the regulation of credit transactions. Sales can easily be made to people unable to pay for their purchases. While societies doing a credit business should treat their members with as much consideration as circumstances will permit, it should conform with sound business principles. In giving credit boards of directors should not overlook the fact that they are acting as trustees of the funds of the general body of members, and are often virtually loaning the savings of one member who does not ask for credit, to a neighbor who does, and without the consent of the former. It should be remembered that no society is financed on a basis which will enable it to carry its members financially through a period of depression. It is much more in the interests of a society, as well as of its members, to encourage retrenchment in buying rather than to stimulate sales on a credit basis.

### Effect of Cash Basis

At least two of our Western societies have recently gone on a strictly cash basis. Both of them report satisfactory results. One effect of cash trading is to reduce, in favor of the consumer, the cost of operation. Funds are also available

to buy to the best possible advantage. Unproductive capital becomes income earning. People who pay their way do not also have to carry those who incur liabilities they cannot, or will not, discharge. Thrifty habits are encouraged because a credit buyer is a careless buyer. Unnecessary articles are often purchased which financial circumstances do not justify because payment at the moment seems to be remote.

It may be that, in some cases, circumstances will not permit the immediate introduction of cash trading, even though it may be admitted to be desirable. If credit is continued, however, sound business principles, and the general interests of the members, demand that it should be systematically regulated on a basis authorized by the directors, after careful consideration and with due regard to the financial capacity of the society, and that the terms thereof be strictly observed. Unregulated and unsupervised credit almost inevitably leads to heavy losses if not to disaster.

### Financial Reserves

More attention should be given by co-operative societies in Canada to encouraging the building up of domestic financial reserves of their members invested therein in good and average times, so that instead of members being under the necessity of asking for credit in times of depression they may have the satisfaction of feeling they are free of debt, and have, in addition, funds invested in the society upon which they can, if necessary, draw to satisfy current needs. Many thousands of workingmen co-operators in Great Britain, in times of industrial depression or long periods of strikes, have found themselves able to continue normal buying on cash terms because of the accumulated purchase dividends, and compound interest thereon, remaining with their societies as loan capital. The Canadian movement, as a whole, ought to give serious consideration to the subject with the view of working out the best plan of employing such loan funds of the members to the end that they will serve the purposes of the movement in its development, and at the same time give absolute confidence to the members they will be withdrawable on demand, or at short notice, in case of need.

# PREMIER BROWNLEE'S LEADERSHIP

An Analysis of "This One Man Government."



By NORMAN F. PRIESTLEY

A sneering phrase that we have heard occasionally in quiet places during the past few years is now finding utterance on the public platform, and, as a result, is making its appearance in the press. An election is approaching. The Alberta Legislature is described as a "one man Government." There are variant readings of the phrase but the intent is the same. Let us examine this thing and see if the appellation is merited or fits the case.

We are told that John Brownlee is the brain of the whole Government; that he is not only its brain, but its voice too; that without him even such meagre remnants of the old parties as the rump of 1921 left in the Legislature could and would tear into shreds the political pretensions of the Farmer movement. The users of this phrase maintain that, were it not for the Premier's valiant appearing at every breach in the walls, the hastily erected citadel of the U.F.A. would have fallen long ago and revealed the pitiful emptiness of ignorance and inefficiency which lies behind.

What are the facts? Let us go back to 1921! In that year, pushed forward unexpectedly by the force of a great surge of social consciousness on the part of some 60,000 voters in the rural areas of Alberta, some forty men, who were themselves part of that tide, found themselves confronted with the task of taking over the reins of Government in this young Province. To almost all of them it was new work. As citizens they had felt the effect of government on their lives and had some conception of its possibilities for their well-being or hurt; but of the machinery by which it was operated they knew only from distant observation, largely through the glasses of the daily press.

They were, however, men of sound sense, possessed by one of the great elements of wisdom: knowledge of their own limitations. They knew that at least one branch of government required expert knowledge, that no man untrained in the intricacies of that body of law upon which government has come to rest through the centuries, could function as the head of the legal department. They looked around, and, doubtless guided by wise leadership, selected a young attorney for that office who had served them for some years in other fields. So it was that John Brownlee entered the Alberta Government.

Time passed, and these men from the farms found in this big, unassuming lawyer not only one devoted to their ideals, but one whose keen and versatile mind could take any problem they presented and assist them to its solution. Their confidence in him grew; and when it was thought necessary to elect from among them a new first minister these farmer representatives chose the young lawyer as their leader. And what a leader he has proved!

Critics of this Government and its Premier know—at least those of them who presume to shape public opinion should know—that in the political arena a leader must lead. It is the genius of British representative government that the man who becomes the head, be it

in Province or State or Dominion, or in the Mother of Parliaments, is selected, not by the multitudes who have never seen him, and only know of him as the figure head of the party to which they belong, but by the vote of elected representatives who have seen him, known him, learned of his capacities and felt his power. A Premier is a first minister, a leader of leaders. It is strange that men should criticize John Brownlee for being that, pre-eminently.

"Ah!" say the critics, "but there is a difference between being a leader and being a dictator." Then their rhetoric and prejudice carry them off to Italy and talk of Mussolini. To those who really know, as the French say, "It is to laugh!"

Now the ultimate test of leadership is the answer to the question, "Do men follow?" These forty members of the Alberta Legislature who have come from the farms of the Province know their direction, they have tried their leader, they have tested his philosophy of living, they believe he knows the way and can see their immediate objective. Why should they not follow? Ask them. Ask also many observers, who, having traditions that differ, choose to follow distantly; or, if holding contrary views conscientiously, oppose but still admire. "Where", they say, "in Alberta, or in Canada for that matter, is a mind so versatile, a judgment so keen, coupled with so great a capacity for work?"

Here is a man with a trained mind, educated in some of the best schools of Canada; not a brilliant, flashy orator, who attracts admiration to himself by dazzling phrases, carving his way to heights of popular acclaim by slashing his enemies with a vicious tongue. Here is a man who plays a serious game, is at grips with reality, a man who envisions a great future for the race, a man who, while at work in the pillared chamber on the hill, thinks of the people of the prairie, the brulee and the bush, who amid pioneer conditions struggle for life, more life. Here is a man who will knit his brows and press his temples at the end of weeks of hard and harassing toil to find a way to ensure that a miner "at the working face" in a lignite coal mine shall not work in dust and smoke, but shall have pure air. Here is a man who would put beauty and stability into the life of little dingy prairie towns. Here is a man who will not take his opponents at their worst, but with courtesy towards them and faith in them will win them if he can. Here is a man who never treats lightly a chance, unskilful question, sincerely put. Here is a man who is in danger of wearing himself out in his desire to meet everybody on the level of their need. And with it all, work, work, and more and harder work!

"This one man government!" It is very evident that those who use these terms do not know the inside workings of the Government group in the Legislature. Because the Premier so often speaks the final, the decisive word in debate, is not to say that it is his word only. He speaks for his fellow ministers and for the private members who are seated behind them. He is the interpre-

ter of their wishes and the voice of their decisions. They choose to let it be so. It is his function; and, recognizing his consummate ability, they elect to have it exercised to the full. That they do so is proof of their worthiness for the office they hold. If personal ambition were the paramount consideration among them, jealousy and rebellion might have arisen in their ranks long ago. It is characteristic of big men, who sincerely desire their country's good, that they put aside the thought that another man's eminence is achieved at their own expense. They are ready, if necessary, to say "He must increase, and I must decrease." The Cause with them is everything.

We have not chosen in this article to discuss other personalities that enter into the picture. It is sufficient to say that no leader ever achieves success without loyal and competent supporters. It is doubtful if anywhere in Canada a Provincial Assembly can be found having a more loyal and efficient group of law makers. The Premier himself paid tribute to them in similar words at the hour of adjournment the other day. This can be said in addition, moreover, that Premier Brownlee does not interfere in the work of the Departments; that he relies upon the efficiency in their respective fields of the other members of the Executive Council, and that they do not fail him. It is also true that when any major problem arises, when unusual demand or representations are made by any body of citizens, the Premier never fails to consult his fellow ministers. As we said before, it is their decisions, their joint decisions, to which he gives voice in the Assembly. That it makes him pre-eminent, brings him constantly before the public eye is inevitable. It is in the nature of government. Where is the country or Province in which this does not obtain? Ramsay Macdonald, Mackenzie King, Hoover, Tolmie, Ferguson, Taschereau, are names synonymous with the Governments of which they have been elected heads. The average citizen of Alberta, we will venture to say, would have difficulty in naming two other ministers in the cabinets of these men.

The fact is that the Executive Council, the Government of Alberta, is a well-balanced, efficient aggregation. It is so successful that they who aspire to its place of power have so little real grounds for criticism that they must resort to some catch phrase, to some appeal to prejudice or fear, in their attacks upon it. We will make this further venture, that they who use these tactics show little grasp of the present political situation, when they attempt to make capital by attacking even indirectly the position of Alberta's popular Premier.

Preparations are being made for taking another decennial census in Canada. It is to be taken in 1931.

"I would prefer an uneducated people to the sort of educated people we are now obtaining; people who are able to read but cannot sift their reading." — St. John Ervine.

# Assembly Deals With Grist of Legislation in Closing Days of Session

Adjournment Pending Consultation re Natural Resources

## STAFF CORRESPONDENCE

### Final Touches Given Provincial Estimates

Premier in Role of Smiling Prophet—Resolution on Unemployment Insurance

EDMONTON, March 10.—Premier Brownlee will be back in office in nineteen-thirty-two. He said so himself, so who is there among us who would willingly dispute the statement? This prophetic utterance was a public statement, and came in reply to the quizzing of J. T. Shaw about the methods employed by the Government in the revision of the statutes in 1921. The Premier smilingly stated that he would employ the same method in the new revision in 1932. So that's settled.

W. G. Farquharson, chairman of the redistribution committee, laid on the table the findings of the committee, together with a map of the proposed changes. (The findings were briefly outlined in the issue of March 15th.—*Ed.*)

The final touches were given to the estimates, the matter of why the Government dispensed with the services of the Commission appointed by their predecessors to revise and consolidate the statutes being brought up by J. T. Shaw. The Premier made it clear that there was not the slightest intention to reflect in any way on the work of the eminent legal experts who had been appointed to the Commission. It was a question of expediency and cost. The Government had instructed the department staff to undertake the balance of the work, with the result that Dr. Scott had the entire revision complete in time for the session of 1922. The first quarter of the work had been done by the Commission, and so far as expense was concerned, the three-quarters done by the department officials had cost less than the quarter done by the Commission. In 1932 the Government would employ the same method. (Laughter.) The estimates were finally passed.

J. T. Shaw stated that he refused to support a measure which gave the Executive Council power to make certain rules governing Rural Credits. He wanted these rights preserved for the Legislature. The Premier replied that there would be no pressure on the members, and action would be delayed until after the Public Accounts Committee finished their investigation of the whole matter. The Government was confronted with the choice of two policies in this case, and they thought it well to carry on with the new supervisor, Mr. Percival, and have a report and definite policy at the next session. The bill was given second reading.

In committee of the whole there was a big draft of legislation advanced a stage or reported for third reading. C. L. Gibbs allowed his pipe to go out an awful lot of times asking questions, and there may be an investigation into the high

The Legislative Assembly adjourned on March 21, until April 2nd, after completing most of the work of the session. The adjournment is for the purpose of enabling Premier Brownlee to examine certain features of the Natural Resources agreement with Saskatchewan which it may be desirable to include in the Alberta legislation, such a course, it is understood, being agreeable to Premier King.

Among important matters dealt with in the current reports are the enactment of a measure for the prevention of fraud in the sale of securities; a new School Bill, which passed second reading, and the endorsement by the Assembly of a recommendation that the principle of public ownership shall be observed in the development of Alberta's power resources.

cost of Government matches. He got a clause in the Town Act held over so that it could be redrafted in such a way that councils would not only name the two days selected for an advanced poll, but would also be left free to select the hours during which said poll would remain open.

Control of electrical energy is the subject matter of a very important bill, in two parts, the first being the proclamation of the electrical code of Canada and the second part being of an emergent nature which might never be needed, or at least not for some time. It was read a second time, and its provisions will be analysed when it gets to the committee stage.

### COMPROMISE ON UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

Then came the big compromise. Fred J. White, Labor chief, introduced a substitute for the resolution on unemployment insurance presented by his colleague. The first resolution was too tough for the Government to swallow whole, so the Premier had introduced an amendment; that in turn had been too much for the Liberal Chief, so he introduced an amendment to the amendment. The new suggestion, in substance, is the calling of a joint conference between Provinces and Dominion, at the same time freeing the Province from commitment to any policy resulting until approved by the Provincial Legislature. The Premier stated that while it did not go as far as his own resolution, he consented to withdraw his. J. T. Shaw also withdrew his amendment, and the mover of the original, C. L. Gibbs, sidetracked his also and the substitute resolution became the unanimous choice of the Assembly, without further debate.

The Lethbridge charter amendments were passed on motion of A. Smeaton. Irrigation District Acts and Tax Consolidation Acts were finished in committee. In the Village Act, councils were

given power to grant monies to boards of trade, at the discretion of the councils.

### TWO ACTS DEALING WITH CO-OPERATION

Then came a few fireworks on the registration of co-operative societies. There are two bills, one dealing with co-operative marketing associations and one dealing with co-operative associations. The confusion at times which fogs up this distinction is the cause of funny incidents. In the co-operative marketing associations the registration fee is increased to twenty-five dollars, but the cause of some dispute is the provision that if the association will forward its requisite return to the Government promptly and correctly each year, that immediately thereafter the Government will refund five dollars. This will be repeated each year for five years, at the end of which time the entire fee will have been refunded.

So, at this point C. L. Gibbs and J. T. Shaw took exception to the return of the entire fee, maintaining that the cost of registration at least should not be refunded. R. G. Reid explained that the cost would be small, being part of the general cost of upkeep of the Co-operative supervisor's office established some time ago. He stressed the idea that the only object in increasing the fee and granting the refund was to encourage the associations to file their returns promptly, as it was in the realm of financing and auditing that associations had gone astray in the past.

The same idea was introduced in the Co-operative Association Act, the fee being increased and the principle of the return applied. J. T. Shaw was afraid that if this were to be granted to co-operatives, it would discourage private enterprise. R. G. Reid thought the case was different, as these associations were non-profit associations, but J.T.S. thought they existed for the profit of the membership. His colleague, George Webster, on the other hand, manifested fear that the high fee would discourage the formation of co-operatives.

George MacLachlan, Pembina, took a prominent part in the debate, in the course of which he pointed out that many of these small consumers' associations only did a business of from \$100 a year up, and it would not be fair to penalise them by making the charges excessive. The refund was the only way to safeguard the member, as the necessity of an accurate and prompt audit was the key to success. In Saskatchewan the fee was around three dollars.

C. L. Gibbs thought the fee should be graduated to suit the case, and while he did not object to the loan of public monies to help organise co-operatives, this money to be repaid, he did not think it wise to saddle the public purse with the entire cost of registration of these associations. Like J. T. Shaw, he wanted them to pay their way. Progress was reported on the bill.

A bill to relieve cities from having to collect school taxes in rural districts and transferring this job to a village, muni-

cipal district or the Minister of Municipal Affairs, was advanced a stage. This to affect several of the smaller cities.

The Parks Act was forwarded, and the provision made for the preservation of beauty and historic spots and the formation of parks. Old Fort Edmonton is one of the places involved.

A bill to allow the London and Western Trusts Co. to eat up the Standards Trusts Co. went through committee. R. H. Parkyn moved an amendment to the Calgary City Charter which will preclude employees and customers from being on or loitering around barber shops and beauty parlors after one hour subsequent to the closing hour on Saturdays, which is seven. It passed.

The Municipal Hospitals Act was advanced, several amendments proposed by Minister Hoadley being to give power to the Minister to take a vote in any area after a deadlock or stalemate by the residents. He instanced cases of this in the Coronation district. Another amendment was to exclude a doctor from being elected to the board of any municipal hospital.

Approval of a bill by which the Renfrew Golf Club would assimilate the St. Andrews Golf Club of Calgary was refused pending inquiry as to whether the step had been concurred in by members of the latter. There was a suspicion that the process was more concerned with the establishment of an up-town club than a golf club, and so it was held over for further investigation.

An account of the debate on the bill to guarantee advances to the Alberta Wheat Pool, which passed third reading on March 11th, was given in our last issue.

## Bill to Prevent Fraud in Sale of Securities

**Attorney General Brings in Measure for Public Protection—Compromise on Jury Act**

EDMONTON, March 12.—Two important subjects, as well as a dozen or so bills in committee, took up the time of the Assembly on Wednesday. An agreeable termination came to the resolution of J. T. Shaw on the clarification and emendation of the Jury Act to prevent whittling away by the judiciary of the right to trial by jury in civil cases. A compromise having been arrived at, on that matter, deep and studious thought was given in committee to the new proposals in the Prevention of Fraud in the Sale of Securities Act, and the debate was interesting and timely. Many bills were advanced so far as to bring the end of the session into clear view, and the royal assent was graciously given to nine bills, including the Wheat Pool Guarantees Bill.

The evening previous the Liberal chieftain had introduced his motion on the Jury Act. He built up a strong case for the preservation of the right of jury trial in civil as well as criminal cases. He used illustrations of recent judicial actions, one with respect to an action for recession of contract in the case of sale to a farmer by the Minneapolis Threshing Machine Co. of machinery which it was claimed did not turn out to be as represented. But the learned judge had refused trial by jury, and Mr. Shaw built up from that incident a case to the effect that the judiciary were whittling away at the people's right to jury trial.

The Attorney General, who thereafter took up the parable, objected strongly to the implication that the judiciary was whittling away that right. He conceded the fact that such right should be available. He was willing even to amend, extend or otherwise deal with the act to make it conform to the wishes of the Assembly, but he would not do so if the words which the Liberal leader had chosen were allowed to remain in the resolution.

He pointed out that under the act, the right of trial by jury, at the request of either litigant, must be granted in cases where the amount involved exceeded \$1000. In the case specified by J. T. Shaw, damages asked were placed at \$750 and therefore the judge refused trial by jury. If the Liberal leader would strike out the obnoxious words and suggest an extension or clarification of the act, the Government would accede to the request and make a survey and have a report ready for the next session, and then if it was not found to meet all requirements the members of the Assembly could amend it further at their pleasure.

P. J. Enzenauer.—Let me get this clear. Is it so, that if a case involved does not amount to \$1,000, the act makes no provision for trial by jury?

Attorney-General.—Yes. The amount has to be a minimum of \$1,001.

J. T. Shaw, closing the debate, said that as the farmer litigant in the case mentioned had traded in an old machine at \$750 and given a promissory note for \$850, he did not see how the learned judge could assume that the case was beyond the pale of the jury provisions. However, as his desire was the clarification of the act in the matter, and as he knew perfectly well that it could not be accomplished during the present session, he was quite agreeable that the Government should review the matter during recess, and so he begged leave to be allowed to suggest an amended motion with the objectionable words left out. He then stated that if the Attorney General would move this motion he would be very pleased to second it.

The Attorney General laughingly thanked him for the honor, but adopted an attitude of "after you, my dear Joseph." It was finally agreed that the Liberal chief would move it as a substitute and the Attorney General would second it.

That was fine, but Mr. Speaker pretty near upset the applecart and dissolved the harmony by informing the Assembly that he was fed up with the irregular practice of moving substitute motions without notice. Of course he used dignified language, not having the poetic license allowed a mere scribe. However, after reading a lecture on procedure in a few simple words, he allowed the substitution on the unanimous consent of the Assembly, and so that is that.

### TO PREVENT FRAUD IN SALE OF SECURITIES

Everybody interested in the purchase of securities—and who isn't in these days when so many people are piling up immense fortunes by the simple expedient of taking a few shares in eyeglass consolidated or niblick-putties?—will follow with keen interest the attempts of the Attorney General to make the game clean, honorable, straight and above board. He is being helped considerably by the stock exchanges themselves, from whom many suggestion with respect to the better regulations and survey of all transactions have been received, and portions of the new bill are drafted to embody such suggestions.

Perhaps it might be as well right here to give a brief review of some of the more drastic parts of the bill, as well as the comments of several members thereto. The preamble makes it clear as to the meaning of the word "broker," which formerly meant a person only, but which now includes a company and officials of a company or partnership which trades in securities, and shall also include a security issuer (that is the issue of stock by a company or individual who is the actual owner of same) unless the context of the bill definitely indicates the contrary.

The definition of "fraud" is very important, being as follows:

(c) "Fraud," "fraudulent act" and "fraudulent" shall, in addition to their ordinary meaning, include:

(i) any intentional misrepresentation by word, conduct or in any manner of any material fact either present or past, and any intentional omission to disclose any such fact;

(ii) any promise or representation as to the future which is beyond reasonable expectation and not made in good faith;

(iii) any fictitious or pretended trade in any security;

(iv) the gaining or attempt to gain, directly or indirectly, through a trade in any security, a commission, fee or gross profit so large and exorbitant as to be unconscionable and unreasonable;

(v) any course of conduct or business which is calculated or put forward with intent to deceive the public or the purchaser or the vendor of any security as to the nature of any transaction or as to the value of such security;

(vi) the making of any material false statement in any application, information, material or evidence submitted or given to the Attorney-General, his representative or the Registrar under the provisions of this act or the regulations; or in any prospectus or return filed with the Provincial Secretary;

(vii) the violation of any provision of this act or of the regulations relating to trading in securities;

(viii) generally any artifice, agreement, device or scheme, *course of conduct or business* to obtain money, profit or property by any of the means hereinbefore set forth or otherwise contrary to law and anything specifically designated in the regulations as coming within the meaning of this definition; Part one deals with registration; no person shall trade in securities unless he is registered as a broker, or salesman of a registered broker, etc., with a few exemptions clearly defined. In the exemptions granted to one who trades a security in an isolated case, care is taken to prevent an ex-salesman from trading under cover of this exemption. Exemptions from registration extend to non-profit sharing companies, and the balance of the first part deals with bonds and penalties and forfeiture and cancellation for offences.

Some discussion took place with regard to the latter parts of the penalty section.

During the week commencing March 10th, and for a portion of March 17th, staff correspondence was taken over by James P. Watson, during the absence of Norman F. Priestley, who returned to the press gallery on that date after visiting the agricultural schools of the Province in reference to a text book on Co-operation which he is preparing.

The words preceding the penalties state—"The Attorney General may order that" (and then follows sub-sections outlining the offence and the penalty) and the section concludes with the words: "and no order of the Attorney General shall be subject to review in any way in any court."

Mr. Shaw thought that was too drastic but the Attorney General remarked that it was in the old act passed last year. It stood.

Part two deals with investigation and action by the Attorney General. This is the same as last year, only the insertion of certain words (which are given in capitals below) increases the scope. For instance, "the Attorney General, or any person, OR PERSONS to whom as his representative OR REPRESENTATIVES he may in writing delegate such authority, may examine any person, COMPANY, PROPERTY or thing whatsoever at any time in order to ascertain whether any fraudulent act, or any offence against this act has been, is being, or is about to be committed," etc., and this section makes it clear that no bank shall be exempt from examination insofar as the sale of securities are concerned, even though it seems that employees or officers of banks are exempt from examination under the Alberta Evidence Act or the Canada Evidence Act.

With regard to this clause Mr. Shaw drew the attention of the Attorney General to the danger under these provisions of companies or individuals suffering unduly at the hands of over-officious investigators and the need for careful handling, as witnessed he said by the recent cases in parts of Canada. Mr. Duggan also stressed this point, and the Attorney General replied that he was deeply conscious of this danger, and the Department was fully alive to the need for careful survey.

A clause which provides that where an accused person refuses to furnish information, this shall be deemed to be *prima facie* evidence upon which the Attorney General, the Supreme Court or a judge thereof or a police magistrate may give a judgment in their several capacities, provoked some more observations from the Liberal leader.

It was fundamental in law that no man should be convicted out of his own mouth, and he thought it unwise, but the Attorney General said it was designed to provide for the case where reasonable evidence existed to convict but the accused deliberately refused to open his mouth. If a man is innocent, he affirmed, he would at least try to give information. It was unusual legislation, he admitted, but very necessary. Mr. Shaw thought it would encourage third degree methods, and spoke as though the third degree is a common legal trait.

There was some laughter when the Liberal leader said that possibly a man might shut his mouth on investigation, because while innocent on the charge investigated the man feared that by speaking up he would give away some other offence of which he had been guilty.

That was too much for the Minister of Education, who with a mere layman's understanding did not see how guilt should not be guilt under certain conditions.

#### PANEL OF AUDITORS TO INSPECT BOOKS

Part three deals with audits, accounts and information. This is of primary importance. The regulations are that each exchange shall keep a panel of auditors to inspect the books of each person or company doing business on the

exchange. Twice each year shall an audit be made, once at a specified time, to fit in with income tax returns, and the other to take place at a time unknown to the company or person, so that the element of surprise will be a factor in the prevention of illicit practices. The exchanges are given absolute power to enforce the audit and secure returns. This is already in effect in the bigger exchanges, and the smaller ones will have to step up.

Part four provides for regulation of trading. Stringent new provisions and penalties are drawn up, directed at the practice of a broker selling for his own account against a customer's buying order, thus preventing the purchase from having any effect upon the market and relieving the broker from carrying the stock. The customer who has been so treated may elect to treat the contract as void, and recover whatever he paid with interest. This is also considered an offense. Exchanges shall keep a record showing the time and place at which each transaction took place and shall supply to any customer of any member of such exchange upon production in writing confirmation of any transaction with any such member, particulars of the time at which such transaction took place and certification or otherwise of the matters set forth in such confirmation.

Part five contains general provisions.

## Assembly Unanimous in Adopting Report on Redistribution

**Chairman Pays Tribute to John D. Hunt**

EDMONTON, March 13th.—W. G. Farquharson to-day moved the adoption of the report of the redistribution committee, seconded by George Webster. As chairman he paid a special tribute to the secretary, J. D. Hunt, whose information and tabulations saved the committee weeks of work. He expressed appreciation also of the work of the members of the committee, who had carried on harmoniously in the desire to reach some mutual agreement. He thought its work had wiped out some of the existing anomalies with regard to population, as Mr. Hunt's tabulations showed that there had been 20 constituencies above the average, while 28 had been under. This had been changed to 13 and 15 constituencies, respectively. He recommended the adoption of the report.

Col. Weaver stated the Conservative members took the position they had always taken, that any redistribution would be inadequate so long as there existed two systems of voting, one for the rural parts and one for the urban. With this reservation, he concurred in the report, and said that in spite of differences of political thought the result had gone considerable distance towards rectifying some of the discrepancies, and he thought this result and the harmony which had prevailed, due largely to the tact and courtesy of the chairman, who had preserved the peace between the lions and the lambs.

George Webster didn't know whether his character was that of a lion or that of a lamb. However, a great deal of work had to be done, and many things which at times cropped up to make it seem impossible to achieve any result had been overcome, and it had seemed that the major thought in the minds of the mem-

bers had been to find a mutual agreement. There had been in all elements a submerging of their own political hopes. Of course the committee, by virtue of the resolution of the Assembly which had called them into being, had been restricted along certain lines and the work was the best that could be done under those restrictions. There had been so much work attached to this, that he hoped frankly that if ever a time came when a new committee should be set up, that he would not find himself one of the personnel.

Fred White mentioned that that day was exactly the 365th since the setting up of the committee. They had worked less than a year, but he thought the time had been well spent. He felt some gratification, because he had been on the committee of 1926, and it had been futile. The arrangement of any constituency boundary which had been in existence for a great length of time was a rather delicate problem, as there were no doubt many local conditions which had to be recognized.

#### ADEQUATE EQUALIZATION NOT POSSIBLE.

The Premier also expressed appreciation on behalf of the Government of the work of the committee. There were some features of the proposed redistribution which were not 100 per cent appreciated by the Government, just as there were features which had not been 100 per cent appreciated by members opposite. The result would affect the Government as much as it did other groups. Personally, he felt that in a young and growing Province there would never be an adequate equalization of population, to the ultimate degree, and even in states like New Zealand, where they adjusted representation by an independent tribunal, there was a fifteen per cent leeway above or below the average. He predicted that within the next five years the present plan would be superseded, and looked for the grouping of municipalities into larger units, which at the same time would not have the disadvantages of the county system as known in the east, so that there would be new groupings for municipal school and administration purposes.

J. T. Shaw had no special observations to make on the proposed changes, as he had only given a hurried survey to the map. He was sure, though, that there was at least one abortion in the suggestion, namely that of the constituency of Cochrane. He had never been in favor of a committee of the Assembly anyway, but had advocated consistently an independent commission. Membership in the Assembly was too great to start with, and here they were still adding to it. However, having the restrictions in mind it was the best that could be done, and he would not oppose the adoption of the report.

It was adopted unanimously.

The Legislature consented to the establishment of a research council for Alberta; regulation and construction of Provincial Parks is assured; George Hoadley got his agricultural pests legislation tuned up ready for the season; and Red Deer had its ordinances duly ordained.

#### CO-OPERATIVE ACTS ARE AMENDED

The following amendments were suggested to the acts respecting co-operative marketing associations and co-operative associations. Provisions referred to previously, namely, the increase of the registration fees to \$25 with a yearly rebate of five dollars for correct returns, have been expunged. The following are the new suggestions adopted by the Assembly.

**Co-operative Marketing Associations Act:** New section to take the place of Sec. 46—"There shall be paid to the Registrar upon filing the memorandum and articles of association a fee of five dollars, and upon filing an amendment to the memorandum or articles of association a fee of two dollars and fifty cents."

**Co-operative Associations Act:** New schedule of fees; application for registration and filing bylaws or rules, \$5.00; filing amended bylaws or rules, \$2.50; every cancellation of entry, \$2.50; each search, 25 cents; filing any document, 25 cents.

Second reading of the new Mines Act was given, after the Premier had promised to draw up a list of the few contentious clauses so that members could study them over the week-end. Delay of this bill till the closing days of the session was determined, as the latest draft had been only recently mailed to parties concerned, and the Premier wished them to have time to make any representations.

P. M. Christophers, fighting miner from the Rockies, said second reading was "O.K. for him," but intimated that he sure as the dickens had some amendments to suggest when the proper time came.

Over an hour's discussion of the Mechanics Liens Act Amendments Act took place, some very contentious, if not fiery stuff having been found therein. Labor was kicking for security for wages for cutting brush or other labor; farmers were kicking because they got no notice when a plaster was placed on their property for materials or labor; Sam Brown wanted everything stricken from the register as soon as paid; some others wanted a lien to be on the buildings only; some thought it might extend to a quarter section; some thought the power of the judiciary to assess it against the whole area owned by the party against whom claim was levied was altogether going too far, and a whole lot of other things which could not be heard in the press gallery.

## New School Bill Is Moved in Assembly

All Authority Rests in Hands of Elected Representatives

EDMONTON, March 14.—It seems that more and more as time goes on does the U.F.A. system of democratic representation finds its way into all administrative channels of the Province. "From the ground up" is now much more than a mere phrase.

If your correspondent is right in his conception of some of the provisions of the new School Act, it would seem that in the new voluntary divisions to become operative under the terms of the act, each of the school districts concerned, select a delegate, who when they meet, in turn select directors who form what will be known as the divisional board. In view of widespread statements to the effect that the bill aims to take away control from the people and place it entirely in the hands of governmental officials, let it be clearly stated that all authority rests absolutely on the elected representatives. The divisional board under the new bill establishes rates of pay, makes the necessary requisitions, and assumes all the functions which in last year's bill were assigned to the general board. There is

no general taxing area under the measure, nor any general board.

### STILL IN THE DARK AGES

The Minister of Education, Perren Baker, dealt with the principle of the bill on second reading today, and the debate was adjourned immediately thereafter by George Webster, Calgary. Wetaskiwin and Drumheller city charters were in committee of the whole and advanced several stages. Apropos the former, please take note that no PERSON need apply for position as mayor or alderman, as it is expressly stated that "any MALE" with the requisite qualifications can be elected to these high offices. The Hon. Irene Parlby lifted her eyebrows slightly when she made the remark that she was very much surprised in these modern times to find a city like Wetaskiwin still living in

the dark ages. This gave a cue to Labor members, who hammered at certain property qualifications in the bill. Chris Pattinson stated it was absurd to find that one could not be elected as alderman of Wetaskiwin unless one had \$100 in collateral when one without any collateral could be a member of that Assembly or even sit in the scion's seat at Ottawa, or words at least to that effect. The bills were held over till later.

Mr. Baker, moving second reading of his bill, made it emphatic that there was no deviation on the part of the Government from the belief in their original policy, namely, the complete reorganisation of rural school administration and the embracing of all rural school districts in divisions. The new measure might be disappointing to ardent advocates of the larger unit, but no Government should proceed with social legislation in advance of public opinion.

## Minister of Education Explains Provisions of the School Bill

### Detailed Explanation of New Measure Given by Hon. Perren Baker

In the new school bill an effort has been made to effect a more logical arrangement than in the existing act, which, as a result of the many changes which it has undergone, has become rather confused and difficult to understand. The new bill is divided into seventeen parts, each with an appropriate title indicating the matter with which it deals. The provisions of the bill are in the main similar to those of the existing act, the chief difference, apart from the provision for the establishing of divisions, being that the qualifications for voting in school elections are made uniform throughout the Province, by providing for adult suffrage in connection with the election of trustees and for a property qualification for voting on bond issues.

### A Radical Change

Part XVI of the bill, which deals with the formation of larger units of administration, or divisions, differs quite radically from that of last year, in that it provides for the formation of a division only after a vote favorable thereto has been recorded in the area affected. Whereas the school bill of 1929 provided for the grouping of all the rural school districts of the Province into divisions, forming a general taxing area, and for the creation of a general board, through which the divisions would co-operate in raising a general fund for the payment of the salaries of all teachers, and by which a salary schedule applicable to all rural teachers would be established, under the modified scheme no general board is possible, and the fixing of the salary schedule and the paying of the teachers will be done by the board of each division, the money being raised by a common mill rate over the division.

An amendment to the School Grants Act will provide for the payment to any division of an equalization grant sufficient to ensure that the payment of teachers' salaries shall not require a levy of more than eight mills within the division, this being approximately the average required for this purpose among the rural schools of the Province.

### Notable Progress

During the past decade notable progress in education has been made.

The enrolment in our schools has increased 35.6 per cent and now totals 164,850.

The constantly increasing number of pupils has been taken care of by the opening of 1,217 new classrooms, making a present total of 5,345.

The period of operation has been greatly increased, 93 per cent of all our schools now operating for 160 days or more, as compared with 66 per cent ten years ago.

There is greater regularity of attendance.

Teachers are better trained today. The academic requirement has been raised, the period of training has been lengthened, practice teaching is greatly increased, and a School of Education has been established within the University, for the superior training of graduates.

The overcrowding, which was quite common in schools of the New Canadians particularly, has been largely overcome by the building of over one hundred two-roomed schools.

The general level of attainment of the pupils in the schools has been very considerably raised as a result of these improved opportunities, as is evidenced by the fact that: Grade eight examinations were written in 1,804 rural schools in 1929, as compared with 886 in 1921.

### Rural High Schools

Further evidence of this is seen in the greatly increased enrolment in the high schools. 13 rural high schools have been organized, including 62 school districts. Grade nine examinations last June were written in 841 rural school districts, and Grade X examinations in 357. The total enrolment in high school grades in the Province is 19,433, an increase in the last ten years of 11,501. High school enrolment during the past three years has increased 34 per cent. Of our total school enrolment 11.78 per cent is in the high school grades. Ten years ago the percentage was 6.53.

The curriculum has been revised, in accordance with the best modern thought.

The unit system has been adopted in the high school grades, and the list of authorized text books has been revised.

An effort is being made through correspondence courses to reach the children who have no school to attend. 1500 such pupils have received instruction since this work began, and there are approximately 400 now enrolled. Of the 13 who wrote the Departmental Examinations last year all were successful. Several of these had never attended any regular school.

Although we have these gratifying evidences of progress, there has grown upon me a conviction, which I may say is shared by officials of the Department, that the rural school at least has about reached the degree of excellence which it can reasonably be expected to attain under the existing system of school administration. This system does not ensure the full-time operation of all the schools. It affords no effective means of providing secondary education in the rural areas. It does not spread the burden equitably. It provides no way of making an intelligent selection of teachers. It makes no provision for adequate supervision. It cannot bring about continuity of teacher service. It affords no satisfactory means of eliminating the unfit. It does not hold for the rural schools their proper share of the more effective and experienced teachers, because under it no salary schedule is possible, and for this, and several other reasons, under it rural teaching can never be made much more than it is—a practice ground for novices, a handy means of livelihood for the period between school days and matrimony, or a stepping-stone to other occupations. These ends are justifiable enough, but the rural child deserves something better, and it can be given to him.

#### Solution Needs Larger Unit

For the solution of this problem we must turn to the larger unit of administration, since nearly all of these weaknesses are wrapped up in the very nature of our inherited system of rural school administration. This conclusion has been arrived at by practically every student of school administration on this Continent, on making a study of conditions similar to ours. It is corroborated by the experience of New Zealand, Australia and England and Scotland, and many of the States of the American Union, where the disjointed system of extreme local control, to which we still cling in Canada, is no longer tolerated, but has had to give way to the more effective system of larger units. The officials of the Departments of Education of every Province of the Dominion, with the possible exception of Quebec, where quite other conditions prevail, know that the existing system ought to be replaced by the more effective larger unit. The movements now under way in the Provinces of Nova Scotia, Ontario, Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta, looking toward the inauguration of the larger unit, are but a carrying over into the field of education of the modern methods and systematization which have revolutionized industry, transportation and commerce.

The establishing of larger units will bring about the full-time operation of all the schools, the solving of the problem of secondary education in the rural areas, in so far as it is capable of solution, and the more equitable distribution of the cost. It will bring about a more intelligent selection and placing of teachers. It will prevent much of the shifting about of teachers. It will provide thorough supervision. It will make possible the

elimination of the ineffective, and, by offering some prospect of advancement, through the establishment of suitable salary schedules, and by enabling teachers to serve under a more disinterested and responsible control, it will enable the rural schools to hold a larger share of the better teachers.

#### Must Have Public Support

The bill that was presented last year provided for the complete reorganization of rural school administration, and the embracing of all rural school districts in divisions. As stated on previous occasions, it was introduced for the purpose of focussing public attention upon the problem, and in the full knowledge that its proposals might be more far-reaching than public opinion would sanction at the present time. It is fully realized that no Government can proceed with social legislation in advance of public opinion. No greater disaster could happen to educational reform than the premature enactment of legislation which has not behind it sufficient public support to make it workable. The measure now before the Assembly, while it may be disappointing to the more ardent advocates of the larger unit of administration, proceeds on sound ground, in that it provides that divisions will be organized only in areas where there is sufficient public support to ensure the scheme being given a fair trial. We believe that a number of divisions will be organized in the near future by the vote of the people, and that they will fully vindicate the faith we have in the larger unit of administration as a means of greatly improving rural education in this Province.

## Motion on Teachers' Superannuation Lost

#### Committee to Make Survey of Subject and Report—Scheme Not Favored

EDMONTON, March 17.—Hector Lang, Medicine Hat, whose suggestions by way of resolution have from time to time been accepted by the Assembly, found his usual luck had forsaken him when he moved for the appointment of a committee of the Legislature to survey and report at the next session a scheme for teachers' superannuation. The battle was fought by proponents of the resolution mainly on the principle of pensions, but while conceding the principle involved, the Government swung into action on the ground that schemes were still in the experimental stage in other Provinces and the result had been that theories which seemed very desirable when first enunciated had to date failed very materially in practice. The entire weight of the Government benches plus the staid Conservative group was counted against the resolution, while Liberals and Labor present to the number of eleven stood up for the resolution on division. The resolution reads as follows:

*Resolved*, that the matter of the superannuation of the teachers of the Province be immediately referred to a committee of the Assembly with a view of surveying the whole field and drafting a scheme for consideration during the 1931 session of the Legislature.

Mr. Lang drew attention to the terms of a resolution introduced by him a year ago to the effect that the Minister of Education should forthwith make inquiry into cases of those teachers who having rendered long service in the profession,

were unable to continue in the profession on account of illness or ill health and authorise provisions with regard to such teachers as in his opinion would be fair and reasonable. This resolution had received the unanimous support of the Assembly.

The mover emphasized the fact that the teachers of the Province had given this resolution unanimous endorsement as a step in the direction of a pension scheme in the Province, and he made much of the fact that the civil servants had a superannuation scheme in effect in which normal school teachers and school inspectors were included, so that the teachers themselves were next in line for consideration. School boards, parent teachers' associations and other such bodies were favorable to the scheme, which he affirmed would be on a contributory basis.

Objections to any scheme previously had been centered on the financial position of the Province. He thought this had been overcome on account of the successful solution of the railway problem and the return of the natural resources; that the time had arrived for the making of an exhaustive survey of the whole field by a committee of the Assembly and the subsequent bringing in of a scheme for consideration of the members next year. He stressed the contention that a pension scheme would give more permanence to the teaching profession; the average teaching period in Alberta was three and a half years as compared to five and a half in Ontario; largely due, he thought, to the existence of a pension scheme in Ontario.

Proposals of the teachers in Alberta were that the scheme should be contributory; the plans were to pay a pension to teachers for total disability or superannuation amounts varying from \$480 to \$1500; this being based on salaries received, and the number of years of teaching service; teachers to contribute three per cent of their salaries and the Government to contribute a supplementary amount sufficient to guarantee the actuarial soundness of the scheme. He estimated the Government's share at between \$130,000 and \$140,000, or about two-thirds of the amount to be paid by the teachers.

#### BAKER PRESENTS VIEW OF GOVERNMENT

The Minister of Education did not think the argument that there was any analogy between the civil service and the teachers was sound, as the former were directly in the pay of the Province. He reviewed efforts at superannuation in other Provinces, and pointed out that no scheme which was actuarially sound had yet been evolved. Not one of the schemes which were in operation would, he felt, satisfy the Alberta teacher.

Going further, he did not think a resolution which committed the Assembly to expenditures estimated at a minimum of \$130,000 per annum, should be passed lightly, without considering two points at least—the actuarial sums the Government of the day would be responsible for, and whether the Assembly could add this amount yearly to the budget of the Province. There were elements in this very Assembly which would commit the Government to increased expenditures for services and at the same time damn them for increasing the public debt. (Applause from Liberal benches.)

Joseph T. Shaw, Liberal leader, did not think the terms of the resolution committed anyone to anything. He then dealt in a lengthy way with the principle of the payment of pensions, enumerating

(Continued on page 38)

# News from Alberta Wheat Pool Head Office

Information for Members and Locals Issued by the Publicity Department of the Alberta Wheat Pool

## The Wheat Pool and the Option Market

When the Wheat Pool guarantee bill was being discussed in the Alberta Legislature, it was mentioned that the Pool had purchased future options on the Winnipeg Grain Exchange at certain times. This has led to the circulation of a report that the Wheat Pool has been engaged in gambling on the Winnipeg Grain Exchange, and several newspapers have suggested that the organization has been unwise in this respect. Pool members can be assured that the Pool has never made a business of gambling on any exchange. In fact, it has deliberately avoided the practice as much as possible.

On rare occasions during its existence the Pool has purchased futures when traders had forced price levels down artificially. At certain times the Pool has sold wheat to millers who had previously protected themselves by buying options. The Pool accepted the options in payment, because if it had not done so the millers would have immediately sold them, having obtained their supplies of required wheat. With the options in the Pool's hands they could be sold in reasonable amounts from time to time without creating a market disturbance. The operations of the Wheat Pool in the purchase of futures can not even in the widest sense be construed as gambling. They were the undertaking of ordinary business precautions with the legitimate end of view of protecting the market price for the wheat producers of Western Canada. Even at that the entire purchases during the Pool's existence would only be a fraction of the business transacted on the Winnipeg exchange in one busy day in the fall months.

In the field of commodity marketing there is a legitimate and useful place for exchanges. They bring producer and consumer together, enable millers and similar processors of raw material to protect themselves from market fluctuations. They perform other useful services which would be difficult to fulfil without them. Thus far the producer and consumer has no grievance against the commodity exchanges. The one outstanding grievance, which the passing years have failed to minimize, is the manipulation of prices by men who are only concerned for selfish reasons. Possessed of great wealth and power these men have entrenched themselves in positions from which they can wield enormous power, only too often to the disadvantage of the people whom the exchanges are supposed to serve. From a legitimate purpose the trend has always been to divert these exchanges into huge lotteries which cost the individuals and the nation huge sums of money annually, and money they can ill afford to lose.

The operations of the Winnipeg Grain Exchange are kept pretty much of a secret, but an idea of manipulations can be gained by investigations conducted in connection with the Chicago Grain Exchange. Senator Lynn J. Frazier, of North Dakota, estimated that the man-

ipulations of that market on the single season's crop (1925) cost the producers at least 500 million dollars, and he estimates the aggregate commission from all commodity exchanges at 100 million dollars a year. It may safely be assumed that the Canadian people pay a proportionate toll to the gambling in food stuffs. Seldom is more than 50 million bushels of cash grain handled in the Chicago Board of Trade during the course of a year, yet sales of 150 million of futures are not uncommon in a single day. In 1928, for every bushel of actual wheat sold on the Chicago Exchange about 400 bushels of paper wheat are traded in.

Senator Frazier relates how eight traders, possessing enormous financial backing, each customarily traded in two million bushels, and rigged the market for their own benefit over a period of four months. The price changes over that period corresponded with the purchases and sales of this group of super speculators. One trader changed his position from the long to the short side of the market or vice versa, eleven times in a few weeks, and always buying or selling enormous quantities. Most of these speculators do not care a straw for the welfare of the producer, the farmer, his wife and family, their only idea being to gain wealth for themselves. It is against this type of speculation that the ordinary farmer is so highly indignant.

As far as the Wheat Pool is concerned, its entire concern is the welfare of the farming population. Its operations on the grain exchanges have only been in the interests of the producers.

### Is the Pool Defensible?

In spite of the fact that there is a glut in other products than wheat with a consequent depreciation in price, many eastern newspapers, and notably papers which cater to the financial interests of Canada, are sparing no pains to blame the demoralized world commercial situation on the Canadian Wheat Pool.

There is an over-production and lowered prices in silk, wool, sugar, coffee, dairy products, silver, copper, zinc, iron and many other commodities, as well as wheat. This fact is deliberately overlooked by these anti-Pool newspapers, who are concentrating a prejudiced campaign to destroy the Wheat Pools of Western Canada.

There are notable exceptions on the part of some prominent eastern papers to this program of anti-Pool propaganda. *Toronto Mail and Empire* has steadily adhered to an attitude of fairness to the Pool. A recent editorial from its columns is herewith quoted in full:

"Will the Western Wheat Pool finally win out in its fight for higher prices? To the augurs of the market-place the omens do not look favorable. A different question, one that is open to others than sooth-sayers, is: 'Is the Wheat Pool a defensible organization?' Are those right

An address by A. J. McPhail, President of the Canadian Wheat Pool, on his recent European tour, is published in full in this issue, commencing on page 25.

who criticize it as a combination against the law of supply and demand? Has the Wheat Pool a public value? In its own ranks it has very able exponents whose arguments command the respect of unprejudiced people. The Pool is entitled to fair play on the part both of its market adversaries and of the Canadian public. It ought not to be judged by the results of a single year, whether favorable or adverse. It may be beaten in its present campaign and yet deserve the confidence of its members, of the farming community as a whole, and of the public of Canada.

"The large company that assembled at the Empire Club luncheon yesterday (March 7) to hear Prof. Fay, of the Economic Department of the University of Toronto, would go away satisfied that they had spent the hour profitably. They learned the conditions out of which the Pool sprang. They were shown what a rock of refuge the Pool is to the individual farmers, who in the past were left to solve their own market problems, very commonly to their great disadvantage. However it fares in its present contest with traders in wheat-importing countries, the Pool is likely to be voted a power for good in the West. The marketing of commodities is today the practical question of uppermost interest in commercial economy. Co-operation is the principle trusted to bring about a great change for the better in the lot of agricultural producers. Why should nearly all other industries and trades have the benefit of systems of a more or less unifying character, and the farmers be denounced as economic heretics because they attempt to devise machinery for common guidance and common benefit? We doubt if the farmers joined together in this Wheat Pool ever carried on so sanely in the interest of their occupation as they are doing now. Rancor against the East or against anybody has not been expressed by the Pool. The organization is not assailing other people, but is simply endeavoring to bring about reforms in marketing, reforms that must be the hope of the Western farmers, who, as Prof. Fay showed, cannot be said to have a living margin in the present returns from their labor and invested capital.

"The Wheat Pool has the backing of banks which a few years ago Western farmers looked upon as their adversaries. It has the backing of the prairie Governments, and it has sympathy from the East such as a few years ago it would not have thought this part of Canada capable of yielding. The Pool has to keep groping its way. There is reason to believe that if it had not existed the plight of the Western farmers at the present time would have been much worse than it is. And the Pool has contributed to the growth of a really national feeling, whereas a few years ago Western agricultural opinion was by its sectional bent a cause of uneasiness to the Dominion."

# The Wheat Pool Is a Friend Not an Enemy of the British Consumer

I. V. MACKLIN, Grande Prairie

The amount of wheat grown in Canada is influenced mainly by the price received. Before the Pool started action there was a great deal of land in this district absolutely idle because of the low price of wheat. Now the price was not low to the consumer, but it was low to the producer. The speculator middlemen were taking their toll. Now suppose the middlemen took a toll of ten cents per bushel! That ten cents might make all the difference between profit and loss to the grower, all the difference between success and failure, between quitting the farm or continuing and breaking up more land. Whatever the producers of Western Canada have done to get closer to the consumers in Great Britain, if it has not already benefitted the consumers it will ultimately benefit them.

I believe it has already benefitted them. I paid 62 cents per hundred freight rate on wheat in 1921 from here to Fort William. I now pay 28 cents per hundred to tidewater at Vancouver. Whatever the farmers have done to get lower freight rates and to eliminate the profits of the middleman, goes to give the grower more returns and he immediately breaks up more land and produces more wheat. There have been millions of acres of brush and semi-brush land along the north of Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba brought into the production of wheat since the Pool started which would have been in brush yet if the pre-Pool and after-the-war prices had prevailed. There is much land previously cultivated which grew wheat since 1923 which would not have grown wheat had the pre-Pool prices prevailed since 1923. Western Canada has grown millions of bushels more wheat because of the Pool and we understand that that wheat will be needed for consumption before another crop grows. If that is true, then, had the price to the grower been as low to the producer since the Pool started as it was before the Pool started there would have been less wheat grown and a greater scarcity of wheat in sight than there now is. Surely a little surplus food in the world's cupboard is not a calamity.

## "Mother Hubbard's Cupboard"

If "Mother Hubbard's cupboard" were bare, surely that is nothing to rejoice over. Let the consuming public thank the Lord that Mother Hubbard Wheat Pool has got a cupboard (some countries have not) and that the cupboard is not bare. Who knows what the 1930 and '31 crops will be?

The Wheat Pool cannot stop the working of the law of supply and demand. They can, however, iron out the fickleness of it, and this is not detrimental to the consumers. Millions of producers of wheat in many countries cannot combine to keep the price above that set by the law of supply and demand. As long as there is wages and a little profit in it there will be an increasing production until the supply overtakes the demand and the supply is lessened by the price falling to the cost of production basis. When that time comes the price to the consumer will be as much less, under the Wheat Pool plan, than it would have been had the old system prevailed, as the cost of getting the wheat from the producer to the

consumer under the Wheat Pool plan is less than the cost of doing the same thing under the old speculative method. Therefore the Wheat Pool is working for the good of the consumer. The Wheat Pool does not create or upset the law of supply and demand—it only estimates as nearly as possible what it is and the Pool have estimated that demand as a little stronger than the speculative market does. A price to the producer like the speculative market is paying now, would only mean less acreage sown to wheat in the coming year and that is not a good thing for the consumer.

The world needs wheat. The price has got to be fair or it won't be produced. That would be a calamity. If the price is too good, it can only remain that way long enough for those producing it to get swung into action. I see no way of stopping production except low prices. If the Pool has meant higher prices to the producer by the elimination of the middlemen's profits, then it has benefitted and will benefit the consumer. The anti-Canadian wheat attitude behind those placards in British restaurants is a mistake. We are not against British manufactured goods. Eastern Canada may be, but we are not. We are not an enemy to the British consumer.

## Wheat Duties

German duties against foreign wheat were revised on February 11th, 1930. The present duty on foreign wheat into Germany amounts to 61 3-5 cents per bushel. France has a duty of 53 cents a bushel against foreign wheat, while Italy is maintaining its duty of 73½ cents per bushel. In addition France offers an export premium to the extent of 80 cents per 100 lbs. on all grain exported from France. Both France and Germany are maintaining their milling regulations, France allowing only 3 per cent of foreign wheat in all wheat manufactured products milled in France with the exception of special diet bread which may contain 80 per cent foreign wheat. Germany requires the use of 50 per cent domestic wheat in all flour milled in Germany.

## Centralized Wheat Buying

The subject of centralized wheat buying in Britain was discussed in an article by John A. Stevenson, Canadian correspondent of the London Times in a recent issue of the Toronto Saturday Night. The writer intimates that there is a strong movement on foot for the establishment of a wheat import board which would be entrusted with the duty of purchasing all grain imported into Britain. If this should develop, he contends the natural result would be centralized selling in Canada. "If the Grain Trade merchant is to disappear in Britain, his compeer in Canada must prepare for the same fate," the writer states. "If the British wheat board controlled by a Labor Ministry was entrusted with the task of buying Canadian wheat it would certainly first turn to the Pools for its

supplies and the private grain trader would be left at a great disadvantage. Another vital factor would be that the Pools would be, better than anybody else, able to fill large bulk orders without much trouble. So developments in Britain may bring a compulsory pool nearer than most people imagine, but its emergence would have to be accomplished by a certain amount of government control.

"This is another aspect to the expected developments which is worthy of attention. If the British import board was buying wheat direct from an all-Canadian compulsory wheat pool and all middlemen's profits had been eliminated, the way might be opened up for a really valuable preference on Canadian food stuffs in the British market, and it is the only preference which can do us any good.

"It would be a comparatively simple matter for the British wheat board to get authority to pay preferential prices for grain produced in the Dominions. The bogey of food taxes could not then be raised, and there would be not the slightest necessity for the British consumer having the price of his bread increased."

## New Norway Resolutions

There were over fifty present at a meeting of New Norway Wheat Pool members on March 6th. The speakers were J. A. Cameron, field service man, W. W. Harber, delegate, and J. Lundberg, who acted as chairman. Mr. Harber was first called upon and gave a good explanation of the progress made by the Alberta Wheat Pool with what was done at the delegates' meeting. Mr. Cameron outlined the work of the Wheat Pool and the reasons for the adoption of the various policies of the organization. Frank Olson, secretary, made a few remarks in connection with the present problems of the Pool and the responsibility confronting Pool officials and public servants during times like the present. He illustrated his remarks by comparing the present time with slippery and bad roads, and mentioned how horses often are misused by their drivers under those conditions. Sometimes the driver, while knowing that the horses are doing all they can, still applies the whip. There are times when this can be compared to our treatment of officials. In all walks of life there are difficult problems to solve under difficult conditions. We have our servants in different capacities to help solve public problems. What are we doing, especially in cases where the heavy load of public responsibility results in slowing up of speed during unfavorable conditions? Are we using the whip to our servants or have we some other way of encouraging them? The speaker then introduced the following resolution:

"Whereas we farmers, members of the Alberta Wheat Pool, can see the great difficulty the Wheat Pool officials have had in connection with the marketing of the surplus wheat of Western Canada; and whereas we know the Pool still has on hand a carryover from last year which will be put on the world's markets in accordance with the policy adopted by the Pool, namely, not to dump our wheat at once or at any price but to sell according to the world's demand and at a fair price both to the consumer and also to the producer; and whereas we know the well-being of a nation is like a tree, agriculture being its root and manufacturing and commerce its branches; therefore be it resolved that the farmers and Pool

members assembled at this meeting go on record as approving the action of our Wheat Pool officials in their endeavor to get a fair price for our wheat and that we in the future give the Pool our support in that policy; and be it further resolved that we heartily approve of the action of the Provincial Governments in lending a helping hand to the agricultural class of Western Canada by guaranteeing the Wheat Pool's margin with the banks; and we believe that no fair minded man or woman should criticise these Governments for their action, as in the past guarantees have been given privately owned railways to the extent of over 200 million dollars, besides big grants of land throughout the country.

Mr. Olson, in moving the resolution, stated he would like to see all present voting. Ludwig Olstad seconded the motion and the resolution was carried unanimously.

## Meeting at Egremont

Egremont Wheat Pool Local reports 32 members present at their annual meeting held March 11th. A. Rafn, delegate, A. Babiuk, field service man, and H. M. Forbes, travelling superintendent for the Wheat Pool, were present. Delegate Rafn's report of the annual convention was well received. As there were a number of Ruthenians present, Mr. Babiuk gave a lengthy address in the Ruthenian language which was much appreciated by them. H. M. Forbes explained the elevator agents' meeting held at Calgary, and other matters relating to Pool elevators, answering many questions which were asked to the satisfaction of his questioners. The following resolutions were passed by the meeting: "Whereas we believe that true co-operation raises the morale of its membership and enlists them in one common purpose for service and benefit, and that this is a spirit and not a force, therefore contrary to the idea of compulsion by legislation, we also believe that these principles are maintained to the full by the Canadian Wheat Pool; and whereas we are convinced that governments are more or less influenced by financiers who use their powers to serve their own ends, therefore be it resolved that we go on record as protesting against any action of the government to control the Grain Trade, until speculation and gambling in grain be eliminated and banking and finance come under control for service and not for profit."

The foregoing resolution was moved by H. King and seconded by G. G. O'Brien.

"Resolved that this meeting go on record as expressing their complete confidence in the management of the Wheat Pool by the executive and desiring to extend to them our fullest sympathy in the trying period through which the organization is passing." This resolution was sponsored by H. King and A. Main.

The following officers were elected: E. W. Goodridge, chairman; P. Chaba, vice-chairman; A. S. Petrie, secretary. It was decided that at least two Ruthenian members should be elected as committeemen and Wm. Bachinski and Wm. Pzlypink were appointed. The balance of the committeemen were appointed as follows: R. W. Gooding, M. Vandau and T. Gittins.

## An Example to Follow

H. J. Flock, of Raley, has been a member of the Alberta Wheat Pool ever since its inception and has always been one of its strongest supporters. Recently he sold his section and a half farm in the Raley district to a group of Hutterites. Mr. Flock insisted that as part of the purchase the Hutterites should sign a Wheat Pool contract, which the purchasers agreed to. "I worked many years to assist in establishing the Alberta Wheat Pool on a firm foundation," Mr. Flock stated, "and did not wish to see my land pass into a non-Pool classification even if I sold it." This splendid spirit illustrates clearly that the pioneers of the Wheat Pool movement are staunch believers in producers' co-operatives and determined to do all in their power to make them a success.

## Empire Production

The following extract is selected from *The Canadian Gazette* (London) of February 13th, 1930:

"The whole situation is engaging the attention of British public men of all political parties. There is no denying the great menace to the British Empire of—

"(1) The low wage competition of the Argentine cereal grower.

"(2) The bounty paying practices of producing countries in Europe, such as Germany, France and Czecho-Slovakia.

"(3) The possible dumping operations of the United States interest supported by a \$500,000,000 State Farm Relief Fund.

"Common sense would seem to suggest that the business men and the Governments of the Empire who really do desire inter-Empire co-operation should unite in getting down to these facts and evolving some acceptable means of upholding the interests of Empire production. There are signs that in Great Britain the Empire point of view in such matters is coming uppermost."

## Field Service Notes

Reports would indicate that the growers of Buffalo View district near Wainwright Park are well pleased with the recent visit of Delegate Beck and the field man. The discussion on Pool business at the meeting held, appears to have resulted in a much better feeling of confidence in co-operative marketing throughout the community.

Seventy-five growers of the Cadogan district, F-3, turned out recently to hear Delegate Beck give his review of Pool business for the past year. The field man was present and after the question and discussion period which took in prices and world conditions, gave an illustrated address on Pool affairs which was much appreciated and well received.

W. F. Grafton, field service representative of the Wheat Pool, addressed a meeting of the Rio Grande U.F.A. Local on Wednesday evening, March 5th, and answered many questions regarding the present wheat situation throughout the world. There was a good attendance of interested members who expressed their

## COARSE GRAINS INITIAL PAYMENT

Effective March 12th, the Initial Payments on Rye was reduced 35c per bushel on all grades.

The Initial Payments on Oats and Barley was reduced 10c per bushel all grades.

satisfaction in the Pool's policy in holding their wheat during the past few months.

The Gimli Wheat Pool and U.F.A. Locals held a very fine meeting on Monday evening, March 3rd, to listen to an address from the U.F.A. Director, I. V. Macklin, and discuss the grain situation with the field service man of the Wheat Pool, W. F. Grafton. Many questions were asked both speakers and the members of both locals were well satisfied with the policies of their respective organizations.

John Hallett, delegate for F-5, reports "I have just given the annual report of the Wheat Pool meeting of November last in sub-district F-5, with an average attendance of 50 at seven meetings. The report was received with much interest. The very large majority of the membership seems to realize their present situation. The efforts of the Pool in trying to protect their interest in the present market situation seems to be vindicated."

A very successful organization meeting was held at Edmonton on Thursday evening, March 6th, when the farmers organized a Wheat Pool and U.F.A. Local. I. V. Macklin, Director for the U.F.A. and W. F. Grafton, field service representative of the Wheat Pool, addressed the meeting, answered many questions and assisted in organizing the Locals. The Pool members in this district are heartily in accord with the selling policy of the Pool.

A joint meeting of the Beaverlodge U.F.A. and Wheat Pool Locals was held at the home of Victor Flint on Tuesday evening, March 4th. The U.F.A. Director, I. V. Macklin, and W. F. Grafton, field service representative of the Pool, addressed the meeting and answered many questions. The members of this Local are well satisfied with the policy of the Wheat Pool in holding their wheat for fair prices and are not disturbed in any way from the existing situation.

Wellington Yake, delegate for C-2, reports that meetings held by himself and William Pettinger of the field service department, at Jenner, Iddesleigh and Atlee were well attended, and that the morale of the membership is excellent. The attitude everywhere appears to be "that we are in the Pool to stay." The presence of A. R. Purvis of the Pool Elevator department at the meetings held at Jenner and Iddesleigh was much appreciated.

Delegate Duncan Scott, F-2, with the field man for the district, recently held meetings at Sulphur Springs and Eye Hill rural schools in the Provost district. Despite bad roads the meetings were well attended and a keen interest was shown in the delegate's report and in comparison between co-operative and competitive

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# McPhail Speaks on European Trip

President of Canadian Wheat Pool Surveys Situation

The first public address given by A. J. McPhail, President of the Canadian Wheat Pool, since his return from Europe, was before the Regina Board of Trade on March 13th. In view of the great interest in the visit of the Pool delegation to Europe the speech is herewith reprinted in full.

I appreciate very much the spirit shown by the business and professional men of Regina, as indicated through the Board of Trade. I was in Hamburg when I received the cable from your President asking me to address you on my return from Overseas. The whole-hearted kindness of the cable prompted me on the spur of the moment to accept the invitation.

Mr. MacLeod, Mr. McIntyre and myself went Overseas, partly in response to an invitation extended by Mr. Thomas when he was in Canada last fall, but principally in keeping with the policy of the Pool, since its inception, of having representatives visit the countries where we sell the most of our wheat, at least once a year. When Mr. Thomas was in Canada last September we had two conferences with him in Winnipeg. At the first conference it was quite evident that he had been absorbing a great deal of the propaganda that was circulating at that time regarding the supposed policy of the Pool in deliberately holding up the sale of wheat for higher prices in the future. We proved to him that our policy was quite the reverse of what he had been led to believe.

### Proposed Interchange

He was very anxious to find some means of selling British coal in Canada. He stated that Canada bought between sixteen and seventeen million tons of coal from the United States, and he felt that to the extent that United States' coal could be replaced by British coal in Canadian markets, both countries would benefit. One of the difficulties was that of getting return cargoes for the "tramp" steamers bringing coal. He thought that the policy which he believed the Pool had been following of deliberately holding up the movement of wheat, would seriously interfere with the possibility of there being return cargoes available for these steamers. He suggested that the Pool construct storage elevators in the United Kingdom ports, or, if the Pool did not care to do that, the British Government might undertake the work. The idea was that having plenty of storage space in British ports, would enable Canadian holders of wheat to ship at any time and store their wheat in these facilities on the other side. We told him that, as an organization, we would not consider building warehouse facilities in the United Kingdom, nor would we even consider deliberately shipping unsold wheat and storing it in elevators on the other side, whether they were Government owned or not.

As a result of our experience it has been our policy more and more to avoid putting any wheat afloat, unsold. Once the wheat is afloat and is close to its destination, the seller is, in a large measure, at the mercy of the buyer.

Notwithstanding this, we were, and are, very sympathetic towards a greater interchange of goods between Canada and the United Kingdom. When Mr. Thomas invited us to send representatives to confer with the Government, we were

very ready to accept his invitation, and very willing to consider any proposal that might help to pave the way for the importation of more products into this country from the United Kingdom.

We had several conferences with Mr. Thomas in London and with some of his associates. He appeared to be quite optimistic at our first conference regarding the possibility of results. We were prepared to recommend, for the serious consideration of our Board, a certain proposal made by Mr. Thomas, that I think would possibly have facilitated the desired developments. However, due to the very strong attitude taken by the coal people on this side of the water, the whole idea, I think, has been dropped, for the time being at least.

Now to deal more particularly with the present situation. It was stated last week in Winnipeg that it was the policy of the co-operatives, no doubt meaning the Pool, that made it impossible or difficult for the Trade to sell wheat. I am not going to argue the point. I am simply going to state facts, and I have no hesitation in saying that such a statement is quite contrary to fact. You will understand why I cannot deal as fully, in a public way at this time, with all the facts as I would like to do.

You will remember that in 1928 we had much the largest crop in the history of this country, with a larger percentage of low grade grain than in any previous year. At the same time, Argentine produced very much the largest crop in the history of that country, much larger than was estimated by anyone familiar with conditions there. I may say in passing that the Pool original estimate was higher than that of any other organization, but, at that, altogether too low. Another fact, equally important, if not more so, was the unusually high quality of the Argentine wheat, which enabled British and foreign millers to use larger percentages of it in their flour mixtures and, at the same time, do with smaller percentages of Manitoba's.

### Supported the Market

From January, 1929, on, we were faced with the most severe kind of competition from the pressure of Argentine wheat on the market. In spite of that very strong competition, and in spite of the fact that during the winter months last year, our Winnipeg prices were unduly high as compared with Argentine; we had 173 to 174 million bushels of wheat sold at the first of May out of a total to sell for that year of 255 million, including local purchases. No one with any knowledge of marketing could say we were not amply sold at that time. No one could say that we had not taken every possible opportunity of selling our wheat, in the face of very difficult competition and prices that did not appear, to the general public or farmers, at that time, attractive. In order to have this amount sold at that time we had found it necessary to take very substantial advantage of the speculatively high price levels obtaining in the Winnipeg futures market while at the

same time endeavoring by the same action to keep them more reasonably in line with selling levels of other wheat with which we had to compete in the European market.

When the big break in prices came in May, to as low as \$1.06 and \$1.08 a bushel, we decided to take a definite stand against what we considered a "bear raid" on the market. We bought between four and five million bushels of wheat. This was the second time we had taken such action since the Pool was organized. What unprejudiced individual would say at that time that such action was not justified? The markets did turn and gradually went to higher levels.

Some people will naturally ask, why not have taken such an attitude to the market as to have brought our prices in line or on a parity with Argentine? At the time of the drastic decline I speak of in Canadian prices, we found that Argentine prices simply kept falling away from ours; and even at these low levels there was no sign of touching bottom so far as Argentine prices were concerned. There can be no doubt that if we were to have taken such an attitude as to force our prices to a parity with Argentine, it would have resulted in a price war between the two countries. No one could have predicted the result, or to what levels prices would have declined. Further, I may say that the wheat we bought to steady the market at around \$1.07 and \$1.08 a bushel, we sold out again at \$1.14 to \$1.16. That action, I think, makes clear that we had no exaggerated idea of prices, but simply wanted to prevent them from going to ridiculously low levels. From the time prices reached \$1.14 and \$1.15 in June, we have continuously offered wheat at all prevailing price levels.

### Conditions Last Summer

When the "bull" movement gradually developed last summer, as a result of the growing knowledge of the prospects of a short crop in this country, prices went to higher levels than they should have. This was due to the huge quantities of low grade wheat and the lack of a sufficient supply of the contract grades in the necessary position for delivery on the option. All last summer and fall we lost no opportunity to sell wheat. If the Pool had taken a more aggressive attitude in deliberately pressing wheat on the market, under the conditions obtaining last fall, with which you are all more or less familiar, we would simply have precipitated the condition which now obtains, earlier in the season, and the Pool would have been held up everywhere as the organization responsible for such a condition. Even those of you who may not know very much about the market situation, know that my statement in this regard is true. Practically all the leading grain men in this country and even on this continent, were "bullish" all last fall.

### Europe's Attitude

Again, it was said last week in Winnipeg that the condition we are now facing as a result of the situation in Europe, is the outcome of declarations of policy by Pool officials here and in the United States—that the trend of developments which are now taking place in Europe

in the way of wheat duties and compulsory milling regulations started in 1926 as a result of declarations made at the St. Paul Pool Conference. Such a statement, I have no hesitation in saying, is quite contrary to the facts. If such were the case, why did the world import 935 million bushels of wheat from the 1928 crop, just last year, a much larger amount than had ever been imported in the world's history? European countries are pursuing their present policies simply to protect and foster their own agriculture for the purpose of becoming self-sustaining and as independent as possible of other countries for their supplies of food stuffs. There has been no gigantic battle, no titanic struggle taking place except in the minds of some newspaper writers who naturally and excusably want to dress up their articles in the most attractive form from the standpoint of the reading public. It is a condition which has very naturally arisen as a result of a combination of extraordinary circumstances.

The real cause of the present situation is the very large crop produced in the four large wheat exporting countries of the world in 1928, as well as a very large crop in Europe the same year. The most important factor in this situation was the huge Argentine crop and its high quality, which I have already mentioned, and the policy adopted by the people who handle the wheat from that country, of shipping the wheat and dumping it in the world's markets at any price. Argentine, as you know, is a long distance from market, and has only about nine million bushels of storage capacity; consequently she must ship large quantities of wheat afloat, unsold, which simply must be sold while afloat or upon arrival, at any price.

The whole situation, in the same four exporting countries, was completely changed in 1929. Canada, with about half the crop that it had in the previous year; Argentine, with much less than half the exportable surplus that she had the year before; Australia, with 68 per cent of the exportable surplus of 1928; and even the United States had 108 million bushels less than in 1928. On the other hand, however, Europe had again in 1929, an exceptionally good crop of wheat; and, what is of great importance, a crop of unusual quality, harvested under most excellent conditions. There is a strong tendency in European countries, as I have mentioned before, to become self-sustaining. My own opinion is that they are being driven by financial and industrial conditions to protect themselves.

#### Results of War

I believe the conditions in Europe and in the world, are, in a large measure, the results of the war and after-the-war settlements. We know very little about taxation here as compared with the burdens that European people have to carry. They owe huge debts to other nations. This is particularly true of Germany. No other nation wants to buy their products in competition with their own. The United States is a great creditor nation, and perhaps, more than any country, is erecting tariff barriers to shut out the products of other countries. It is only with products of some kind that a nation can pay its debts. You can imagine the position in which the debtor nations are placed, having the market for their goods more and more restricted. What could be more natural than that they should take whatever steps would seem to give promise of a greater measure of economic independence?

As you probably know, Germany, France and also Italy, have erected high tariff barriers against the importation of foreign wheats. At the present time Germany has a duty of 61 3-5 cents a bushel against the importation of foreign wheat, while the duty in Italy is 73½ cents and 53 in France. Contrary to certain propaganda, wheat is not the only farm product in these countries which is protected from competition in the home market. Germany has put into effect a high duty against the importation of hogs and hog products which has resulted in very high domestic prices. In addition to the duties, German millers, by Government regulation, are compelled to use 50 per cent of German wheat in their flour mixtures. French millers are compelled to use 97 per cent of French wheat. These countries, particularly France, have little chance under such conditions of importing foreign wheat. Besides this, France, for instance, pays a subsidy on the export of French wheat to other countries. Both countries allow the exporter of home wheat to re-import a like amount of foreign wheat free of duty. No doubt France will import at least as much wheat as she has exported this year. In fact, that is one of the reasons for exporting—to enable the millers to import foreign wheat to mix with their own. It is the dumping of this government subsidized wheat that is creating such antagonism in the United Kingdom. You have heard a great deal about a feeling alleged to exist in the Old Country against Canadian wheat and the Pool. I was able to discover no such feeling. We had nothing but the most cordial and friendly reception wherever we went in the Old Country. I was there two and a half years ago, but I felt, whether rightly or wrongly, that there is a much greater feeling of real friendliness now than at that time.

#### The Placard Incident

We found that placards had been used by some bakers stating they used no foreign wheat in their bread. It was explained to us that they did not consider Canadian or Australian wheat as foreign, but these placards had reference to the dumping of cheap subsidized wheat from continental countries, particularly France. French wheat was selling in England at much lower prices than the same wheat was selling in France where it was grown. This dumping of cheap wheat has a very serious effect on the British farmer and the price he receives. Naturally, Canadian wheat has no such effect, first, because, owing to its quality, it does not compete with English wheat; also because even under ordinary circumstances, bushel for bushel, it is the most expensive wheat in the world. Regardless of all the propaganda that has been circulated in this country the last eight or ten months, we did not find the slightest evidence of a boycott or antagonism against the use of Manitobas. The situation is simply one of demand and price. You can see very readily, as a result of the policies of European countries, why the demand for wheat has fallen off on the Continent, for the time being. You can understand why, during the past ten months, particularly, the sale of Manitobas has been very slow, because the Argentine, with its huge crop of high quality wheat, has been aggressively dumping and pressing the market. As a result, however, of the smaller percentages of Manitobas used in the flour of both England and Continental countries, European bread is now admittedly of inferior quality. The

information we got everywhere was to the effect that millers would be very glad to be able to return to a larger use of Manitobas in their flour. This is quite obviously the case, because the better the flour they can manufacture, the better it is for their business. Manitobas have not lost their name for high quality, as has recently been stated. Manitobas do not sell simply as wheat in the world's market. Our wheat is regarded everywhere, without reserve, as the best wheat in the world for blending purposes. As one Frenchman stated to me, "We look on Manitoba wheat, particularly under these conditions, as we look on sugar in tea—it's a luxury."

I have said that the bread in all these countries is of inferior quality to that of other years. I must mention Scotland as the only exception. The Scotch, with all their reputation for being close-fisted, are the only people who have continued to insist on having sugar in their tea. Although I did not have time to go as far north as Scotland, Mr. MacLeod, who did visit Glasgow and the Scottish Co-operative Wholesale, tells me that their bread is as good as ours. Certainly, the bread nowhere else can be compared with ours.

#### Wheat Too Low.

There seemed to be a general recognition on the part of people I met that the price of wheat, even at the levels obtaining when I was in England, was too low from the standpoint of the farmer. There is a general recognition that agriculture everywhere is in a serious plight. Different men, interested one way or another in the grain business, expressed the opinion that the price was low enough; but a miller will not pay even an admittedly low price if there is a reasonable expectation in his mind that it may be considerably lower in a few days. Wheat at \$1.10 per bushel basis One Northern, Fort William, is altogether too cheap to make wheat growing attractive in this country, but with the high duties in European countries, it is very expensive to the consumer. Wheat at \$1.10, Fort William, means \$2.00 wheat laid down to the miller on the Rhine, including shipping costs and duty. Even in England, where agriculture probably plays a smaller part in the national life than in any other country, there is a general feeling, which I failed to find two and a half years ago, to the extent that it exists now, that if the country is to be restored to a proper condition of reasonable prosperity, agriculture must be lifted out of the deplorable condition in which it is now floundering.

#### Conditions in Britain

We were given a dinner by a very large business organization, larger than any that exists in this country. I spoke of the difficulties with which farmers have to contend. Years of large yields and bountiful harvests very often bring hard times, while years with moderate or below average crops bring better times as a result of higher prices. I instanced the years 1923 and 1928, the two most difficult years since the war, and years in which we produced the largest crops in our history. One of the directors of this organization, speaking afterwards, stated that their organization owned forty thousand acres of farm lands in England and they were losing money hand over fist every year on their operations. That is the general impression in the United Kingdom to-day regarding agriculture.

While we were in England there was a meeting of nine or ten thousand farmers in Aberdeen, Scotland, gathered together

to consider the situation in order to find some means of relief. There are all sorts of schemes being suggested by different people for the relief of agriculture, some promising the guarantee of a certain price for wheat (or regulations compelling millers to use a certain percentage of home wheat in their flour). This incidentally would be of benefit to Canada, as such a regulation would require the use of more Manitobas).

What I have been saying may appear to be a little pessimistic, but there is no doubt that a feeling of depression exists in many countries at the present time. As I said before, I believe that it largely results from the war and the war settlements. Again, I believe that the great financial crash in America last October has had much more far-reaching effects than most people realized at that time. It has helped to bring about a feeling of uncertainty and lack of confidence that is very important from the standpoint of trade. Then, again, the forced unloading by certain supposed strong interests in the wheat trade here, culminating in a most spectacular grain company failure in the grain trade in Winnipeg a month or more ago. That particular incident received very widespread publicity on the other side and had an effect out of all proportion to its real importance. It seems that under conditions which have existed during the past two months, all kinds of rumors and reports, however unimportant or silly in ordinary times, have had their effect in keeping the situation in a disturbed condition. For instance, the Argentine Government report to the effect that that country only produced a crop of 142,000,000 bushels in 1929, had only a very slight "bullish" effect on the market. Then, again, when their second government report was published, estimating a still lower yield, the effect was not noticeable on the market. Under ordinary circumstances, these reports would undoubtedly have had a very bullish effect. The report of the shipment of 10,000 tons of wheat, more or less at different times, from Russia, always had a seriously disturbing effect on the market.

The best information I could get regarding Russia was that their exports of wheat this year would not be a serious market factor. No one knows how serious a factor they may be in years to come.

#### Another Viewpoint

Now for the other side of the picture. As I stated before, three or four large wheat exporting countries had, combined, less than half the exportable surplus from their 1929 crops as compared to their surplus from the crop of 1928, and even the fourth, the United States, had as previously mentioned, produced 100 million less in 1929 than in 1928. On account of the very large carry-over from 1928, however, she has about the same exportable surplus. There is very serious doubt about the quality of a large part of this surplus. The Argentine crop is also admittedly of lower quality than that of 1928. This is of great importance. Argentina cannot press the market as she did last year, because she has not the wheat with which to press. For instance, Argentine shipments last week were 2,500,000 bushels as compared with over 10,000,000 for the same week last year. Imagine shipments of such huge quantities of wheat from the Argentine week after week, and a large part of it put afloat unsold and in a position where it had to be sold, regardless of price.

Europe, as a result of the policies that I have already mentioned, has smaller stocks of home wheat on hand at the

present time than she had a year ago. According to the German government estimate, Germany had 400,000 tons less wheat on hand the 1st of February than she had last year at the same date. That means nearly a month's supply for Germany. According to our information, the same, in a more or less degree, is true of other countries. Obviously, it cannot be otherwise. This being the case, it is natural to expect that Europe must import large quantities of wheat during the balance of the year. We were told, both in France and Germany, that stocks of wheat in millers' hands are very low. Naturally, the government policies in these countries, by compelling millers to use such large percentages of home wheat, results in the manufacture of a poorer quality flour. Millers, therefore, have not taken into stock large supplies of wheat, in the hope that conditions would change, thus enabling them to import other kinds of wheat for blending purposes. We know that outside of this, stocks of wheat in European ports, such as Hamburg, and Rotterdam, and other ports, are quite low. We know, too, that when a demand does develop, Manitobas, because of their superior quality, have the edge on any other wheat in the world. We have the advantage in this particular, that all millers would like, when possible, to use substantial quantities of our wheat.

#### Feeling Towards Canada

There has been an impression that less wheat is being used now than formerly. It is very difficult to definitely confirm or deny such a statement. We do know, however, that the United Kingdom has imported more wheat this year than last. In England, particularly, there is the most friendly feeling toward Canada and toward the idea of using more of our wheat. I feel that I cannot express too strongly the feeling of real friendliness that I found everywhere amongst Old Country people towards Canada. I thought when I was there, enjoying the hospitality of various groups, of how much some of the countries who have wheat to export would give for the real friendly feeling that exists in the Old Country towards Canada and towards Canadian products. Of course, there is a hope that if they use our products we will import a larger percentage of our requirements from the Old Country. Personally, I think this is only reasonable. I assured them on different occasions when I was called on to speak, that their feeling towards us was reciprocated in the fullest manner possible, and that I knew I was expressing the feeling of the people of Western Canada particularly, when I said that there was a growing feeling here in favor of developments that would result in greater purchases of our import requirements from the United Kingdom. I didn't say so because I was talking to an Old Country audience, but because I felt that what I was saying was a statement of fact.

Again, with regard to the present situation, I am not going to express any definite personal opinion regarding the outcome, because such an opinion would be interpreted as being biased and of no very great value to the outside world. I am going to simply place before you the opinion and statistics of one who cannot be considered as being biased from the standpoint of the producer, namely, Broomhall. Broomhall's figures, which I think, with all due respect to their source, are generally considered to be conservative from the standpoint of world's requirements, estimate that the world's import requirements for the year

beginning August 1st, 1929, will be 696 million, although he has reduced that estimate a day or two ago by 62 million bushels. He estimates that the shipments have already amounted to 366 million, and that there is left to be shipped 330 million. Even taking these figures as a basis, there is good reason to believe that the world will still require our wheat this year. In his market letter last Thursday, March 6th, he stated that he expected a broader demand for Manitobas and that in July next he anticipated much smaller stocks of wheat in North America than a year ago. I don't know any more dependable opinion from a conservative standpoint than you can find in those statements. You are as capable of drawing your own conclusions as I am.

I have not much further to say and you may feel that I have not said very much to throw light on the situation. Regardless of all the propaganda and all the statements that are made by self-styled experts who write with such an assurance of a real knowledge of what has taken place, I say without any fear whatever of successful contradiction, that no one can say with any assurance that the present situation could have been avoided at this time without the very great likelihood that had any different action been followed by the Pool the same condition would have been precipitated earlier in the season, with the result that the Pool would have been blamed for taking an attitude towards the market that would have been unjustified in the minds of the general public and the best informed grain men as well.

It is only necessary to examine the official record of the Canadian carryover each year since the Pool was organized and compare the Pool carryover with the total to find an answer to propaganda to the effect that the Pool has been unduly holding up the sale of wheat. For instance, the Pool had a carryover last August of 52 million out of a total carryover of 104 million. We have always taken the attitude of trying to regulate the flow of our wheat to market.

#### Has Reason for Hope

I have ground for hoping that we can come out of this situation reasonably well, but I believe that we must, as farmers, give very serious consideration to the future. In view of the very definite policies of European countries in the direction of encouraging the production of home wheat, in order to make for more independence of foreign countries for their food supplies, Canadian farmers will do well to seriously consider methods of production, and particularly their costs of production, as well as the quality of their products. Quality is of supreme importance. In spite of all that may be said to the contrary, our wheat is regarded everywhere without reserve as of superior quality to that of any other wheat being exported to the European markets. Nevertheless, it is only the remarkable coincidence of short crops in the four principal wheat exporting countries, that has saved the situation for us this year.

I was very glad to know of the unhesitating manner in which the three Provincial Governments promised their support to the Pools a month ago. It is an evidence of the measure of public support behind the Pools that exists in Western Canada at the present time. I cannot speak too highly of the spirit which animated the three Governments and the Legislatures in deciding to lend

Continued on page 38

# Activities of the University of Alberta

Report Laid on Table of Legislature Surveys Work in Higher Education—Importance of Research

Some conception of the place of higher education in the life of our young Province may be gained from the statement that 2.4 out of every thousand people in Alberta were in attendance at the University of Alberta during the past academic year. In the report of the Board of Governors of the University laid on the table of the Legislature during the first week of the session, this figure is set in contrast to that of Manitoba, where the attendance at the Provincial university was 3.9 per thousand of the population. The report remarks that this is evidence that the saturation point (judging from the experience of one of the sister Provinces whose population is similar to our own) is not yet reached. The total number enrolled was 1,516. Of these 1,301 were full-time students in attendance at the winter session, 101 were summer school students, and the remainder part-time students.

To attend to the academic needs of these students, of whom three out of every four were born in Alberta, there are now 39 full-time professors with 59 other full-time members of the staff, and 49 part-time professors and assistants, a total of 156 professors, assistants, lecturers, demonstrators, instructors etc.

The national origin of the members of the student body is a matter of interest, and may be classified as follows:

Alberta.....	555
Other parts of Canada .....	517
Other parts of the British Empire	142
United States.....	158
Foreign countries, other than U.S.A. ....	57
Not specified.....	87

Edmonton naturally heads the list of places with a registration of 153, Calgary being next with 59. The farms of the Province contributed 284, the highest number of students classified according to the occupation of the parents, merchants being next with 124 students. The Faculty of Agriculture has come to have a large place in the life of the University, as shown by the registration in that department, which was 168 last year.

## Research Work in Agriculture

The report states that in most of the departments that may be described as directly agricultural, teaching is only part of the work of the staff. Large amounts of experimental and research work are undertaken, in fact more than at all the other colleges of agriculture throughout Canada put together. This work is partly done under the auspices of the National Research Council. The members of the staff are also called upon to do much extension work, for instance: issuing reports, giving radio talks, individual lectures and short courses under the Provincial Department of Agriculture.

The good record made by the Department of Animal Husbandry for quality exhibits has been maintained during the past year at the large expositions at Toronto and Chicago; though the aggregate winnings were somewhat lower than last year. One interesting experiment conducted by this branch is that of the

value of sunlight and the use of cod liver oil for winter feeding. The report states that if the field crops department had more room there are phases of the work of seed distribution that could be quadrupled. The department of soils has cooperated with the Provincial and Dominion Governments in prosecuting the work of soil survey throughout the Province. This work, especially in the newer areas, will be of great value to incoming settlers.

## Outgrowing Accommodation

Investigation and experiment in dairy-ing, veterinary science, agricultural engineering, poultry, horticulture and entomology are important phases of the work of the Faculty of Agriculture. Space forbids to tell of developments in the faculties of medicine, applied science, and law; and of the setting up of the new school of education, or of the expansion of the University Hospital and the activities of the student body, all of which are dealt with in the report. That the University is outgrowing its accommodations is very evident.

One of the urgent needs outlined is that of a library building. The Extension Department is crowded and working under restricted and unwholesome conditions. So little room is there in the Department of Applied Science that Convocation Hall has to be used for a drafting room, and even the corridors of the Arts building are being used for the laboratory work of the accountancy course. The building of the new library building which has been contemplated for some time will relieve all this congestion.

The University authorities will doubtless be again disappointed that there is no provision in this year's estimates for the building of this much needed addition to the University equipment.—N.F.P.

## Wild Rose Becomes the Floral Emblem of Alberta

### Children of Schools Preferred This to Tiger Lily

Reminding the Assembly that it had been a custom from times immemorial for nations and states to choose and maintain a floral emblem, citing Egypt, India, European countries and the British units, Hon. Perren Baker, at the close of the evening session on Monday Feb. 17th, moved, as reported in a previous issue, the second reading of a bill to establish the wild rose as the floral emblem of Alberta.

Mr. Baker read an extract from the *Edmonton Journal*, from an issue in the twenty-first anniversary year of the Province—1926—urging that this be done. He told the Assembly of steps taken by the Women's Institutes of Alberta to ascertain the wishes of the children of the schools through the Department of Education, in 1928. Many of the pupils had chosen the tiger lily; but when the enquiry was completed it was found that the wild rose was most favored.

What more fitting than that this flower, so sturdy, native to the Province, found almost everywhere in the Province, exercising its rare ministry of fragrance and beauty, should be selected as the official floral emblem? In addition to its universality throughout our countryside and its fragrance and beauty, it was an emblem of strength, stability and independence.

The bill met with no opposition.

## Will Not Link Peace River by Telephone With South

### Not Sound Business at Present—Minister on Radio Possibilities

In the Legislature a strong plea for connecting the telephone service of the older parts of the Province with that developed by the Government in the Peace River country was made on February 24th by L. A. Giroux, Liberal member for Grouard. The discussion occupied about an hour, in the course of which Hon. Vernon M. Smith showed that, however desirable it might be, it was not yet sound business. He preferred rather to spend money on lines which would give inter-communication between the various parts of the Peace River district. Hugh Allen, U.F.A. member for Peace River, admitted the desirability of the proposed connection, but agreed with the Minister of Telephones, that, seeing money could not be devoted to both needs at present, it was desirable to spend what was available on inter-communication within the Peace River district.

Among other items of information given by Mr. Smith in the course of his reply to Mr. Giroux was the interesting fact that the Government is watching experiments with short wave radio, having in view its use in linking up the remote places with the settled areas of the country.

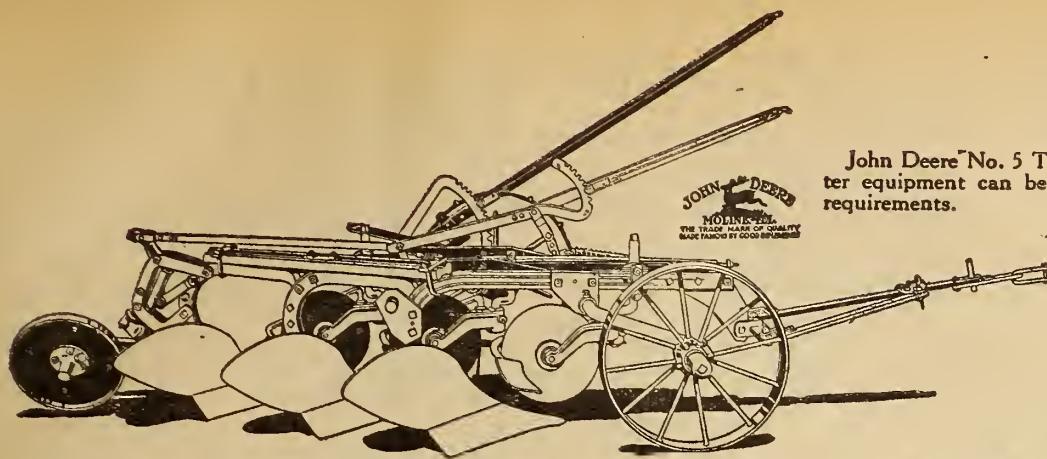
The Minister showed that the proposed line would entail an annual deficit of some \$20,000. The cost would not be \$50,000 as Mr. Giroux had stated, but the much larger sum of \$161,370. He had no fears such as those expressed by the member for Grouard that the B. C. Telephone Company would enter the Peace River country. They had not as yet linked up their Provincial system with the area around Prince George.

Mr. Giroux remarked jokingly that the Government was just as much interested as anyone in this development "especially," he said, "if we have an election in June." The "Noes" had it, when the motion was put by Mr. Speaker.

## A LOST ART.

Paying cash for an automobile has become a "lost art" in the United States. During 1929, according to Department of Commerce reports, 3,441,529 cars were bought on the "finance plan," which is just a 75-cent word for "installment plan." Four hundred and eleven automobile financing companies handled this enormous business, advancing \$1,586,810,500 to the dealers who sold the cars and to the buyers notes.

In the three Prairie Provinces of Canada—Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta—about 4,000 harvester-combine machines were used last year during the wheat harvest.



John Deere No. 5 Three-bottom plow. Coulters equipment can be furnished to meet your requirements.

## Depend on the John Deere Nos. 5 and 6 for Real Plowing Satisfaction

For nearly a century John Deere plows have been giving real plowing satisfaction; their exceptionally good work, light draft and long life have made them the first choice of farmers throughout the Dominion.

When you buy a plow for your tractor, you are especially interested in getting good work and great strength to match bigger capacity. You want plowing satisfaction of the highest type—the kind that is assured when you hitch to a John Deere No. 5 or No. 6 Tractor plow.

Now is the time to get acquainted with these heavy-duty tractor plows. Read all of the features printed at the right—see how each one contributes its share to absolute plowing satisfaction. See the Nos. 5 and 6 at your John Deere dealer's. Write to John Deere Plow Company, Ltd., Winnipeg, Calgary or Regina for free booklet, telling all the facts about these plows. Ask for Booklet AH-210.

### *These Features mean Plowing Satisfaction*

Genuine John Deere long-wearing steel bottoms, world famous for scouring, good work and light draft—the standard for nearly a century.

Time-saving quick detachable shares. Loosen one nut to remove share; tighten the same nut and the share is on tight.

Heavy steel beams sturdily braced by bolted and riveted steel braces. Strong bar at rear of beams is further assurance of rigidity, and steady running bottoms.

Land wheel set well back just as on your sulky plow—insures a steady running plow and uniformly good work in uneven land.

Long - lived, heavy - duty power lift. All-enclosed, easy to oil—dust- and dirt-proof.

Pin break or cushion spring release hitch furnished as regular equipment.

*John Deere Nos. 5 and 6 plows are made in 3-, 4- and 5-bottom sizes with 14-inch bottoms and 3-and 4-bottom sizes with 16-inch bottoms.*

**JOHN DEERE**  
THE TRADE MARK OF QUALITY MADE FAMOUS BY GOOD IMPLEMENTS

# Interests of the United Farm Women

## How Some of Your Money Is Spent

**Protecting the Public from Adulteration the Work of the "Pure Food and Drug Department," and What It Means, Especially to the Rural People**

Ottawa, Ont.

Dear Farm Women:—

There have been many times at home in the spring when I have wished that the days were thirty-six hours long, as the twenty-four seemed all too short. There seemed so much to do, with cooking for a big family, with sitting hens to attend to and with the planning for some work in the garden.

Just lately I have been finding the days here too short, and have wished that they might prolong themselves so I could do more of the things I want, and see more that it is possible to see here. Certainly the housework is far from as exacting with the milk, the bread and the butter all coming to the door ready for the table and no chickens and no garden demanding attention. However, a family does take a little time, and socks and stockings acquire holes quite as readily in the city as in the country. I must confess, though, that a great deal more is spent in social life because it seems particularly interesting in this city with people from all over the Dominion as well as those from other countries.

### A Flower Show.

There are so many pretty things to enjoy as well. Last week, for instance, the Horticultural Society had its display of forced bulbs, and it was a pleasure on that cold, windy day to go into the warmth and fragrance of the Ottawa electric show room where the exhibit was held and see the wealth of beauty of the tulips, the daffodils and the narcissi. They have several of these exhibitions through the year. Later, there will be a tulip show, followed by an iris display, these, of course, from outdoor growth; later still a paeony, and I hope before summer comes, the rose exhibition. These displays are put on to encourage a greater interest in and love of flowers. They also offer a prize for school children to the boy or girl who has the best flower and vegetable garden and writes the best essay on his garden.

Also, there was the spring fashion show. Now I can not exactly pose as a fashion authority, but I thought I might at least have the pleasure of seeing the pretty clothes, even if I were not buying any. A nicely dressed, perfectly groomed woman is a pleasure to look at, and I enjoyed seeing these models parading for our benefit, with their longer, closer fitting skirts, their new little sleeves, their ear rings, and all the carefully watched details that go to making them look their best. Then, all through the Government there are departments of interest to visit. The other morning I went down to the Pure Food and Drug Department and spent a most interesting time.

Sometimes I think we do not realize what the Government is doing for us. We grumble at the expense it is to us and because we have not seen some of the

results we had expected, we feel our money is wasted, that it is taken from us on the farms and spent on projects for the cities.

When we go into the work of a department like the Pure Food and Drug Department, we realize that perhaps it does more for us country people than it does for the bigger cities for in many instances they are now getting somewhat similar departments.

### Dangerous Patent Medicines.

For instance, it is in the country, where doctors are more difficult to get and money to pay them even scarcer, that the patent medicine manufacturers reap their harvest. One needs only to walk into the building and look into a big cupboard there to see how we are being protected. Bottle after bottle is ranged there containing sometimes only an absolutely worthless preparation that would be useless to the purchaser, or, in some instances, containing a sufficient quantity of a drug to make it unsafe to take, as very likely to cause the unsuspecting purchaser to become a drug addict. These have been sent in to be registered as medicines to go on the market and after being examined have been refused. Although that cupboard may be the grave of many ambitions, it has no doubt saved many other people from an earlier departure to their grave.

They tell me that fashions in medicines change quite as much as they do in hats. Just now the inhaling medicines are very popular, the popularity no doubt being stimulated by an intensive radio advertising campaign in the States by a "vapor" company which has its radio hour. None of the medicines are allowed to go out marked "Cure," they may be marked "Remedy."

The whole of Canada is divided into districts, and there are inspectors in charge of the whole country who travel over their divisions. They go to different parts as necessary, but the ports of entry are particularly well inspected.

In the old days, it was possible for the housewife to know of the food she was giving her family, but in this day that is quite impossible, and we find the Department here is being most energetic in protecting us. Take the dried fruits which we use so much in the West and import in such quantities. A certain amount of sulphite is necessary for bleaching and protection from insects or eggs, but too much is detrimental to our health. The fruits are examined when there is any question, and a chemical test made, and if too much is found the fruit will be barred.

There are microscopes and test tubes and ovens and acids and everything necessary to give the thorough examination the foods of to-day demand. At the moment I went into one room a chemist was peering through a microscope to see the amount of starch in a sample of ground almonds. In another a test had

just been finished of a few score samples of seidlitz powders. Just at present, too, a special test is being made of ether, for in one of the eastern hospitals there have been an undue number of deaths when patients were under anaesthetics. A frigidaire container held samples of sausages waiting to be tested. One man makes a specialty of examining the different kinds of jam to see if they are as labelled.

Article after article that we use on our table is safer because of the fear of this Department that has been implanted in the breasts and in the pockets of unscrupulous manufacturers who would profit at the expense of the public. Just at this season of the year in Eastern Canada the inspectors are getting busy over the maple products and protecting the purchasers from being exploited there by substitution of other sugars. So that, after all, steps are being taken in many directions of which sometimes we are unconscious, to protect both our health and our pocket books.

I had intended going on to write of some of the happenings in the House, and I would like to tell you of some very enjoyable books I have read, but this letter is already too long, and I shall close by wishing all of you success with your spring's work.

Yours sincerely,  
H. ZELLA SPENCER.

### Activities of the U.F.W.A.

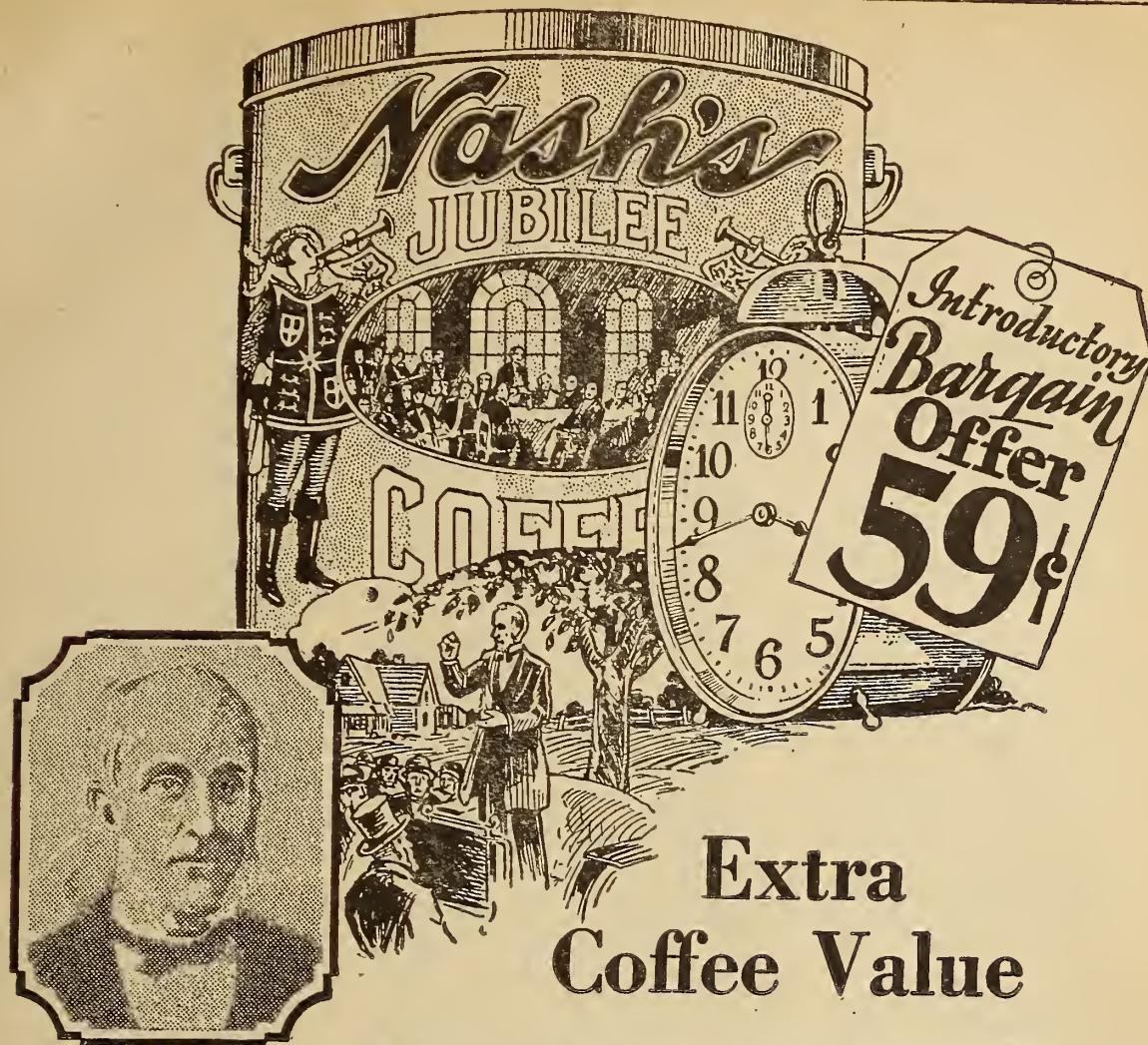
"We are busy at present preparing for our concert which takes place on Friday, March 15th," says a recent letter from Mrs. W. Rush, secretary of Stavely U.F.W.A. Local.

Mrs. A. H. Warr recently organized a new U.F.W.A. Local at Gibbons, in Sturgeon Provincial constituency. Mrs. C. Brumfit is president, Mrs. L. M. Fraser vice-president, and Miss F. Brumfit secretary.

The March meeting of Energetic U.F.W.A. Local, Milk River, was held at the home of Mrs. J. B. Ellert. The business included appointment of a social committee to function for the next three months. A dainty lunch was served by the hostess assisted by Mrs. R. Harney.

"We meet at the same time as the men, at the members' homes," says a report from Mrs. A. W. Johnson, secretary of Water Glen U.F.W.A. Local; "We have separate meetings, but serve lunch and have a social hour afterwards. We are having a basketry course in May, and a baby clinic and lectures later."

White U.F.W.A. Local held their last meeting at the home of Mrs. G. Hadlington, says a report forwarded by Mrs. M. Coupland, secretary of the Local. The ladies decided to entertain their husbands at a social evening, and also to send \$10 to the deficit fund. After the business meeting the hostess, assisted by Misses



HON. GEORGE BROWN

Through addresses in rural settlements and articles in his newspaper, the *Toronto Globe*, aided Confederation, culminating in Canada's Diamond Jubilee, from which Jubilee Coffee is named.

## Extra Coffee Value

EVERY purchase of Nash's Jubilee Coffee in the big five-pound container means extra value for your money. Five pounds packed in one can saves the cost of four one-pound cans. Thus we can give you exceptional quality at a low price. As an inducement to try Nash's we make this extraordinary offer. With your first five-pound purchase at the regular price you get a well-made reliable clock for only 59c. Your grocer is now featuring clock and coffee at this special introductory price.

# Nash's JUBILEE COFFEE

NASH TEA AND COFFEE IMPORTERS  
165 Water Street, Vancouver, B.C.

N 8-2-50

Hawthorne and Coupland, served a very dainty lunch.

Mrs. N. C. Nielson president, Mrs. Flora Norton and Mrs. Elva Passey, vice-presidents, and Mrs. Maud Fossey, secretary, are the officers elected at the February meeting of Magrath U.F.W.A. Local. The delegates to the Convention, Mrs. Fossey and Mrs. Nielson, gave their reports, and Mrs. Inez Bennett announced the results of the U.F.A. and U.F.W.A. drive, which brought up the membership of the U.F.W.A. to 44.

Crerar U.F.W.A. and U.F.A. Locals held a sale and debate on March 7th, says a report received from Mrs. O. I. Elgaaen. The U.F.W.A. made the articles and candy for the sale, also furnished the lunch; the U.F.A. gave the debate. The topic chosen was "Resolved, that the co-operative store is a benefit to the town," and Messrs. G. Oberg and O. I. Elgaaen, on the affirmative, were given the decision. Messrs. H. Farvolden and Willoughby supported the negative. About \$27 was the profit from the lunch and sale.

Ardenode U.F.W.A. Local held eleven very interesting meetings last year, and finished the year with a satisfactory bank balance. Mrs. Geo. Dawson, secretary, writes: "We held a baby clinic last summer, and we are having a basketry course this summer; also a bazaar in the fall to raise funds. We have enjoyed a number of social evenings, and felt ourselves privileged to listen to such speakers as Mr. Garland, Mr. and Mrs. Scholefield, Mrs. Price and Mrs. Buckley. Our members are proud to belong to such a progressive organization as the U.F.W.A."

"Our Local held a hard times dance in the De Winton Community Hall on March 14th, when we realized \$26.95," says a letter from Mrs. S. Jamieson, secretary of De Winton U.F.W.A. "We have sent in \$6.50 as dues for 1930 to the Macleod Constituency Association. Our vice-president, Mrs. Heaver, will read the President's address at our next meeting, as we felt it would be most interesting and helpful to us all in our work. We have taken advantage of the Health Department's offer of a course of lectures, to be given through our Local, and hope to have these during June or July."

"We all enjoyed listening to Mrs. Warr's splendid letter which our president, Mrs. Six, read to us," says a letter from Mrs. J. H. Drysdale, secretary of Stettler U.F.W.A. Local, "and the members voted to endorse the resolution suggesting information bureaus for the assistance of young people moving from one district to another in search of employment. We also decided to study the situation in and around Stettler. Our paper at this meeting was a very fine one on co-operation, by Mrs. Cash, convener, who attended the Institute of Co-operation at Olds last summer. A resolution was carried favoring post mortems after all operations when death ensued."

Good attendance and much interest have marked the meetings of Gleichen U.F.W.A., held regularly twice a month, during the winter, in Meadowbrook Community Hall, on the same day as the U.F.A. meetings. Arrangements are being made, reports the secretary, Mrs. W. H. McKeever, for a lecture course by Miss Davidson, public health nurse; also a baby clinic and a sewing demonstration

next summer. A sale and tea will be held on April 19th, in Gleichen community hall. "A number of men and women from our Locals attended the convention of Namaka District Association," writes Mrs. McKeever, "and gave a very interesting report at our last meeting. Beginning with our April 3rd meeting, meetings will be held at the members' homes for the summer."

A copy of the very attractive program of Naco U.F.W.A. Local has been forwarded to *The U.F.A.* Meetings have been arranged twice each month in the first three months of the year, and once monthly thereafter. Current events are given a place at each meeting, and the conveners of the various subjects of special study are all allotted some time. Other interesting items are: book review, by L. McNaughton; report of trustees' convention; debate on compulsory pool; report of Federal and Provincial Parliaments; debate on natural resources; life of Hon. Charles Stewart, by Mrs. Norton; life of Mrs. Parlby, by Mrs. Richards; life of Mr. McGregor, by Mrs. Hedges; life of Miss McPhail, by Mrs. Baird; life of Mr. Greenfield, by Mrs. S. Miller; life of Hon. J. F. Iymburn, by Mrs. Vaughan; life of Mr. Euler, by Mrs. Glenn. Officers of this Local for the current year are Mrs. Doolan, president; Mrs. R. L. Cross, vice-president; Mrs. P. O. Ratledge, secretary.

Mrs. Needham, delegate to the Annual Convention, gave "a very interesting and comprehensive report" at the March meeting of Lake View U.F.W.A. Local, held at the home of Mrs. Cameron. At the first meeting of the year, the members decided to hold a baby clinic, if at all possible, and to secure a lecturer on home nursing and first aid. Plans were discussed for a bazaar to be held April 12th, and remnants were distributed to the members to be made into articles to be sold. A meeting was held at Mrs. Needham's home on February 5th to arrange the 1930 program; the regular February meeting was held at the home of Mrs. Baillie. "Being near St. Valentine's day," says Mrs. C. W. Collins, the secretary, "her house was tastefully decorated for the occasion, and a Valentine lunch was served. The roll call, 'Your favorite breed of chickens' produced a great deal of discussion on poultry. In former years we have asked each member to give a current event; as this was not often satisfactory, this year the members are taking turns in giving a paper on current events at each meeting."

"I am sending you one of our programs," writes Mrs. Earle Graham, secretary of Namao U.F.W.A. Local. "One of our Junior members, T. Neal, typed them and presented them to us. The snapshot on the cover is Namao Community Hall, where all functions take place. We have been holding card parties, for the new piano purchased for the hall; from five we realized \$53, and now have paid \$100 towards the piano. At our March meeting we had a grab bag, filled with articles made from flour sacks; this brought in \$6.25. For the April meeting each member is to make and bring one quilt block 12 inches square; the quilt will be finished and raffled at our strawberry social in June. We are having a course on Home Decoration by Miss Hutton on April 12th." Some other interesting features included in this Local's program are: a debate, "resolved that immigration is not beneficial to Canada"; discussion, wom-

en's place in politics; discussion, garden pests and their control; topic, a trip around the world; a Hallowe'en party; discussion, the community and the young people; discussion, benefits of co-operation. A roll call is given place at each meeting, and some of the topics are: gardening, something my mother taught me, something I am thankful for; the handiest thing in my kitchen; favorite Bible verse; verse of poetry; New Year's resolution; item from *The U.F.A.* Mrs. G. Clark is president and Mrs. E. Samis vice-president of Namao Local this year.

"At the March meeting of Bow Island U.F.W.A. Local it was voted that we send the sum of \$15.00 as our donation towards the wiping out of 1929's deficit," writes Mrs. Vasselin, secretary. "After the meeting a few games of whist were enjoyed also a dainty lunch provided by the appointed hostesses."

## "The U.F.A." Pattern Department

Send orders to *The U.F.A.* Pattern Department, Lougheed Building, Calgary, allowing ten days for receipt of pattern. Be sure to give name, address, size and number of pattern required. In some cases the customs office requires payment of seven cents duty on delivery.



6756. Girls' Dress.

Cut in 4 sizes: 6, 8, 10 and 12 years. A 10 year size requires 2 5-8 yards of 35 inch material. To trim with lace will require 2 5-8 yards. For bow and sash, of ribbon or material 3 1-4 yards 2 1-2 inches wide are required. Price 15c.

6743. Ladies' Dress.

Cut in 5 Sizes: 34, 36, 38, 40 and 42 inches bust measure. A 38 inch size requires 4 1-8 yards of 39 inch material. For contrasting material 3-8 yard 39 inches wide is required cut crosswise. Price 15c.

## Seasonable Recipes

By AUNT CORDELIA

**Potato Cakes:** 4 cups mashed potatoes, 2 cups flour, 1 egg, 1 tablespoon butter, 2 teaspoons baking powder, pinch of salt. Mix the potatoes, flour, salt and baking powder; stir in the beaten egg and the butter, melted. Roll out one-third of an inch thick; cut in shapes and bake on a baking sheet. When cooked, split open and butter. Serve hot.—Miss G. H., Calgary.

**Mystery Cake:** Cream together 1 large cup brown sugar,  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup butter, and 2 eggs; add  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup sour milk; stir into 2 cups flour 1 teaspoon soda, 1 teaspoon baking powder, 1 teaspoon corn starch, and a little salt, and add to the first mixture. Put through a food chopper 1 whole orange (first removing seeds) 1 cup raisins and 1 cup shelled walnuts, and mix into the batter. —Miss G. H., Calgary.

**Maple Gelatine:** 1 tablespoon granulated gelatine, 4 tablespoons cold water,  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup hot milk, 1 cup maple syrup, 2 egg whites, few grains salt. Soften gelatine in cold water. Let stand five minutes. Add scalding hot milk and stir until gelatine is dissolved. Let stand until cool and beginning to stiffen. Put unbeaten whites of eggs, salt, maple syrup and cool gelatine into a deep bowl, and beat with a dover beater until stiff. Turn into a mould first dipped in cold water, and let stand until thoroughly chilled and firm. Serve with boiled custard made with the yolks of the eggs.

### "BOYS' PARLIAMENTS"

("Canadian Forum", Toronto)

"... moralists . . . should turn their attention to another form of youthful depravity which has become distressingly prevalent during recent years. We mean Boys' Parliaments which now meet during the Christmas holidays in all the Provinces. Here innocent youths whose only weakness has been a tendency to fluency of language are brought together by the Fagins of the Boys' Work organizations and are taught all the vicious arts of the modern politician. They are encouraged to deliver rhetorical speeches about nothing in particular. They pass noble resolutions which they will never have the responsibility of carrying out. They divide into imitation 'parties and hold party caucuses and construct party machines for electing one another to office. They listen to sentimental platitudinous orations by the chief professional wind-bags of the Provincial capital city, and are taught to model themselves upon these masters. They get their pictures in the papers just like real grown-up politicians and are received by the Lieutenant-Governor; and after this course of training they go off into the world with heads so swollen and so empty that most of them never recover. Any educator in our higher institutions of learning will bear witness that these boy orators as a class, are the most completely worthless of all the students who go through his hands. Accurate statistics on the subject are not yet available, but a fairly wide investigation leads to the conclusion that from eighty to ninety per cent of them are aiming at public life. Fortunately for our country most of them never get there, but end up as Realtors or Rotarians or both."

## Seasonable Recipes

By AUNT CORDELIA

**Potato Cakes:** 4 cups mashed potatoes, 2 cups flour, 1 egg, 1 tablespoon butter, 2 teaspoons baking powder, pinch of salt. Mix the potatoes, flour, salt and baking powder; stir in the beaten egg and the butter, melted. Roll out one-third of an inch thick; cut in shapes and bake on a baking sheet. When cooked, split open and butter. Serve hot.—Miss G. H., Calgary.

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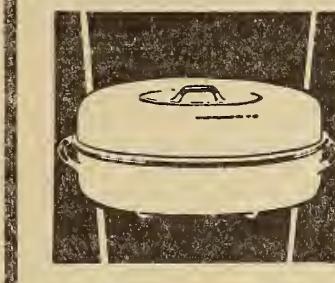
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Enamelled Double Boilers  
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### A Letter from Your Secretary

Dear Juniors:

#### Definition Contest

You probably have noticed in March 1st issue of our paper that *The U.F.A.* is offering three prizes of \$5, \$3 and \$2 for the best three definitions of "The Aims and Objects of the United Farmers of Alberta" from members of Junior U.F.A. Locals. Definitions must not be more than 150 words in length, and must be received at *The U.F.A.* office, Calgary, Calgary, before May 1st. The date originally set was April 15th, but this has been extended. We hope there will be contestants from every Junior Local.

#### Efficiency Contest

I wish also to remind all the Locals about the Efficiency Contest Questionnaire which will be sent out in about another month. The basis of the contest will be membership, organization, conduct of meetings, program followed, development, representation at Junior Conference, the U.F.A. Convention, and the Co-operative Institute. Whichever Local is successful in winning this Efficiency Contest will be rewarded with a very beautiful banner in the Junior U.F.A. colors—blue and gold. When a banner is won by any one Local twice in succession, it is theirs to keep. The first banner offered is now in the possession of the Dalemead Local, the second belongs to Loyalty, the third to Waskatenau, and the fourth—whose? That is for you to say. When the questionnaire is sent you, fill it in to the best of your ability. You may be the proud recipient of this year's brand new Banner which will be presented during University Week.

#### Handicrafts Competition

We are also attaching to this letter a circular regarding the Handicrafts Competition which will be held in Edmonton during University Week. I think you will find this self-explanatory, but if you wish further information in this connection, write to Miss Jessie Montgomery, Alberta Branch, Canadian Handicrafts Guild, University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta. The prizes are really well worth winning, and we hope just as many Juniors as possible will compete.

#### Membership Contest

And don't forget the Membership Contest. Prizes will again be presented during Conference Week to the two Junior Directors whose constituency shows the greatest increase in membership. Get your membership up to full strength and strive to win a prize for your constituency.

We will send you in the course of the next week or so letter giving full particulars regarding the Junior Conference which will be held at the University of Alberta, Edmonton, early in June.

Yours fraternally,

F. BATEMAN,  
Secretary

Central Office, Calgary.

### Increase in Junior Membership

There was an increase of 212 in the Junior membership for February, 1930, over February, 1929. We hope the Junior Branch will continue to expand.

Do your best, Juniors, to help your Director to win one of the prizes that are being offered to the two Junior Directors whose Constituencies show the greatest increase in membership from June 1st, 1929, to May 31st, 1930. There is just one way. Increase your membership!

### News of Junior Locals

"The last meeting of the Harmony Juniors was held at the home of Mrs. John Yanik with eight members present. It was decided to hold a dance at Baptiste Lake school on April 25th," reports Mary Dupilka, secretary.

Bessie Alton, secretary of The Beavers, mentioned, when ordering fourteen Junior U.F.A. badges, that they have been holding very interesting meetings during the winter months and expect to have a dance in the near future.

The Olds School of Agriculture term is drawing to a successful close, reports Emeline Jones, secretary; the Junior Local there has now 89 members enrolled. Recently the annual pie-eating contest was held, and was greatly enjoyed.

"A meeting of the Netherby Local was held on March 15th, at which the Juniors decided to put on a dance in the near future," reports Rosanna Corry, secretary. "After the meeting, the Juniors went skating, and later the boys had a boxing match."

To meet the needs of the very young people, Mrs. T. H. Howes, under the direction of the Hillside U.F.W.A., has organized a Juvenile Junior Local at Millet. This is in addition to the Hillside Junior Local. About eight members have already enrolled.

The first meeting of Onoway Junior Local was held on March 1st with seventeen members present. C. Armitstead, Sr., was elected supervisor. Five directors, Phyllis Ablett, Doris Armitstead, Kathleen Longman, Rose Coates and Charles Longman, were also elected.

Jenny Lind Junior Local held its first meeting on March 1st at the home of the supervisor, Mrs. Carl Anderson. Two new members enrolled at this meeting, which brought the membership up to twelve. It was decided to have a St. Patrick's play-social some time during March.

The Pincher Creek Juniors met at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Theo P. Neumann on March 7th. A program committee was appointed, consisting of Helen Neumann, Adeline Cyr and Victor Kemble. When the business was finished, games were played, and a most enjoyable lunch was served by the hostess.

A meeting of the Glenada Juniors was held on March 8th, with 27 members present, and eight new members enrolled. Each member answered the roll call with a joke. The Juniors are planning a mock trial to raise funds to send a member to the Conference in June. The meeting closed with games.

The Freedom Juniors rented Manola's Hall recently and put on a very interesting evening's entertainment consisting of three comedies, and two "comics" finishing the evening with a dance. Forty dollars was cleared. The Juniors were invited to put on the concert again at Belvedere on March 14th in aid of the Red Cross.

Renfrew Junior Local has been holding an informal debate, Country Life vs. City Life, at two consecutive meetings and it is not finished yet. At a Shadow Social and dance the Juniors cleared \$27.75, and at the next meeting it will be decided whether to purchase baseball equipment or a tennis outfit with this money.

The Burlington Juniors at a recent meeting decided to get up a play and dance in the near future. As all the members at present are girls, one member offered the use of her home in order to get all the young people in the district together and thus try to increase the membership. Plants were sent to two ladies in the district who were ill.

Bismarck Juniors put on their annual rally at the Ferrybank hall recently, and the Juniors wish to thank their many friends for helping them to make it such a success, and thus enable them to send delegates to the Conference. The play, "Squaring it with the Boss," was greatly enjoyed. Music for the dance was provided by the Ponoka orchestra.

The March meeting of Eastervale Local was held at Sugar Bowl School with fifteen members present. It was decided to hold a concert and dance on March 28th. The Sugar Bowl members are contributing about three dialogues, and the Eastervale members the songs and musical selections. The Juniors have decided to organize basketball and baseball teams.

The March meeting of the Mosside Juniors was held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Davidson on March 8th. Ten members were present. The negative side won the debate, "Resolved that the tractor is of more value to the farmer than the horse." Everybody reported having a good time at the Junior dance held recently, when eight dollars was made.

The March meeting of Conrich Junior Local was held in Rockland School with 22 members present. In the absence of the president, Margaret Johnston, vice-president, took the chair. The roll call was answered with the name of a Canadian author and a book written by him. After the business was concluded, it was decided to go skating for the social part of the evening.

The aims and objects of the U.F.A. were discussed at the March 15th meeting of the Stanmore Junior Local as quite a few of the members expect to compete in the definition contest. After the meeting Mrs. Burton, the supervisor, taught the members some figure marching, and then they practised the Eight-some Reel with Amy G. Adams, secretary, at the piano.

"We had our first real Junior U.F.A. meeting on March 12th," writes Elsie Liddle, secretary of the Bobtail Juniors. "We have now thirteen members but hope to soon have more. Mr. Eastwood, our leader, explained the principles of the

Junior Branch to us. We are going to hold our meetings on the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month. We hope to send one or two delegates to the Junior Conference."

Cando Juniors held a very successful concert on March 1st. J. M. Turnbull, a senior, occupied the chair, but the program itself was carried out entirely by the Juniors. Mary Moore was in charge of the musical part. Following the program, a bountiful lunch was served, after which the seniors played cards while the Juniors danced to the music of Mr. t. Stone's accordion. Twelve dollars was realized, part of which is to go towards buying soft ball equipment.

The February meeting of the Bismarck Junior Local was held at the Dakota school. In the debate, "Resolved that the horse is of more benefit to the farmer than the tractor," the negative side won by half a point. Carl Lee gave a very interesting talk on the Annual Convention. At the March meeting, held at the home of Eugene Bidinger, five new members enrolled, and Archie Lewis was appointed secretary in place of Sarah Deuel who has left the district. For entertainment, ten topics were drawn, and each member spoke one minute on the topic drawn.

"The Chesterwold Juniors held their regular meeting on March 1st with a large number of members present as well as a number of older people," reports Joy Crandall. "The program for the evening consisted of some real good comic dialogues and songs as well as the debate, 'Resolved that the horse is of more value to the farmer than the tractor'. The negative side put up a good fight, but 'Old Dobbin' had too many good points to be overcome, and the affirmative side won." Chesterwold Juniors are hoping to have a debate with the Bismarck Juniors before spring.

The amusing one act play, "Mix Well and Stir," permission for the use of which was given by *The Country Gentleman*, was presented by the Arrowwood Juniors at the Consolidated School on March 1st. The play was very well attended and the proceeds, amounting to \$45, will be used to further Junior work. The balance of the evening's entertainment was arranged by a committee of the U.F.W.A. under the leadership of Mrs. James Shearer. One of Arrowwood's most active members, Kathie McLeod, has left the district to go into training at the Holy Cross Hospital, Calgary.

Under the leadership of Mrs. J. G. Elliott, Eclipse Junior Local has been organized, with fourteen members. The following officers were elected: president, George Bennett; vice-president, Dick Rainforth; secretary-treasurer, Jessie Elliott. An appeal from the Senior Local for aid in putting on the program for a box social at Eclipse School brought ready response, and the rest of the evening was spent in practising a chorus, with Margaret Maurer giving excellent service at the piano, and in playing games. The supervisor and hostess were very ably assisted by the teacher and three U.F.W.A. members in making the evening a success.

Beddington Juniors cleared \$120 when they put on the play "The Deacon Slips" at the community hall on March 7th; this sum is to help pay off the debt on the hall. The play was taken to Goldenrod, and

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the Local expect to put it on at Balzac and Delacour also; the proceeds from these performances will be in aid of the Local funds. The cast included Misses Irene Barker, Elizabeth Fairweather, and Eva Lewis, and B. Evans, N. Grey, R. Bridisen, M. Hornby and J. Oldfield. The officers for 1930 are Buster Evans president, Norman Grey vice-president, and Eva Lewis secretary.

### LEGISLATURE

(Continued from page 21)

the many advantages to the teachers and to the Province likely to result from the adoption of a superannuation scheme.

C. L. Gibbs thought the Minister of Education lacked the philosophy of education, or the consciousness of the teaching profession as a social factor. The contention that the teaching profession was not analogous to that of the civil service was absurd, because if there was one profession which did fulfil an unmistakeably social function it was that of the teacher. The Minister was sidestepping. Mr. Gibbs dealt with the heavy turnover in the profession claiming that it was due to the lack of provision for the future, which would be remedied by a scheme of superannuation.

### PREMIER SPIRITED IN DEFENCE

The Premier replied in a spirited defense of the Minister of Education. "If those who represent the teachers of the Province had as much of the philosophy of education at heart as has the Minister there would be a great deal more harmony than is apparent in that profession at present," he said. He then went on to state the Government's position. They had given a great deal of thought to the situation, and had been in touch with other Premiers to find out the results of experiments in other Provinces, so that when it was possible to formulate a scheme it would be actuarially sound and free from the pitfalls already so apparent in existing schemes.

There was not one on his side of the Assembly who did not concede the theories enunciated with regard to pensions. These had been debated again and again. It was very hard to find it necessary to say no to the increasing demand for social services, but in view of the financial responsibilities it had to be done at times. This Government could bring in some kind of a scheme and get away with it by leaving the mess for future generations to clean up, merely staving off the evil day, but they preferred to keep in touch with the situation until some scheme which was sound was discovered. Then and not till then did this Government choose to take any step. They assumed full responsibility, and refused to delegate this responsibility to any committee of the assembly.

The Premier then controverted the idea that superannuation would be a cure-all for the ills of the teaching profession. Much of the turnover in teachers was due to other factors, such as marriage, higher paid careers, etc. In the civil service superannuation had not fulfilled the promise of all the rosy pictures painted during the days prior to its adoption.

D. M. Duggan affirmed that the resolution had served its purpose in that the Government had accepted full responsibility for any action or lack of it. This was as it should be. He went into a semi-critical survey of promises—promises by previous Liberal Premiers and Ministers of Education, that they would consider this question; promises in 1921 by

the present Minister that when he got settled down he would look into it; promises by Premier Greenfield in 1925 that it would be considered, and so on. He took occasion again to remind the Assembly that there were certain individuals on his side who could guarantee certain economies in budgeting as well as certain rearrangements of expenditures, if certain people opposite would only accept these certainties in the spirit in which they were offered. He was opposed to the motion now that the Government had accepted responsibility.

George Webster spoke a few words in support of the resolution, and Mr. Lang closed the debate. A division followed, all the Liberals present voting for the resolution, together with Chris Pattinson, P. M. Christophers, Andrew Smeaton and C. L. Gibbs, Labor. Messrs. White and Parkyn were absent on business at Calgary. All farmers present, together with the three Conservatives, voted against, a total of eleven for, thirty-five against.

Legislation covered by many important bills was advanced towards the final stage at a very rapid rate. Sitting in committee of the whole assembly, the Legislature dealt with some eight bills after the subject of teachers' pensions had taken up about an hour and three quarters of the afternoon session. Milton McKeen's voice announcing the number marked the committee's way through the work with monotonous regularity for the remaining hour and again in the evening for about two hours and a half.

### WETASKIWIN CHARTER PROVES CONTENTIOUS

The Wetaskiwin City charter provided a few mildly contentious questions. The Labor members present, Messrs. Pattinson and Smeaton, challenged the Government to stand by certain principles which they maintained had long been approved by the representative bodies of the British Empire. The new charter as provided by the bill will require a property qualification on the part of a candidate for the mayoralty of that city. The Labor members would have had that provision expunged. They contended that it should be left to the will of the people of the city to decide upon their man without the restricting clause. To the statement that it was the expressed will of the council and citizens committee of the city that this qualification should be retained, they replied that it was natural that those who had obtained office under those restrictions or who were the nominees of such persons would not voluntarily have that restriction removed. Mr. Pattinson stated that no qualification as a property owner was required for the mayor of Calgary, and thought that if such a city could get along without it, surely Wetaskiwin could and should do the same. The committee appeared to be fairly evenly divided when the vote was taken, but the chairman declared that the "Noes" had it; so the property qualification stands.

A standing vote was required to determine how the Assembly divided when Mr. Smeaton, the member for Lethbridge, moved with respect to the clause permitting plural voting on the part of the "chief resident officer of a corporation." that an amendment be inserted providing that he shall vote only once for a corporation and then not if otherwise entitled to vote. The amendment proposed was taken from the Lethbridge City Charter, which passed the Assembly last year.

(Continued on page 42)

### McPHAIL ON EUROPEAN TOUR

(Continued from page 27)  
their support in such a whole-hearted manner.

### Cool Heads Needed

I would like to remind you before closing that when the majority of people are optimistic, when they are inclined to gamble on wheat, or stocks, or anything else, it is a time for the sensible man to keep a cool head and not be carried away by the psychological effect of an over-dose of what is called optimism—I would say foolishness. I am sure that the same thing applies under conditions when the majority of people are feeling rather pessimistic and when there is very widespread lack of confidence and uncertainty. When conditions look the least promising to many people, it is a time for the sensible man to keep his head and not be too much influenced by either extreme and to remember that the saying, "The darkest hour is before the dawn," is very often literally true as to economic conditions. This is a trying time to the man on the land who has to go quite a bit on the faith that things will come out all right, and it is very gratifying to learn upon my return that the farmers, the members of the organization in the three Provinces, are remaining absolutely loyal to the organization. I think they should. They realize now, above all times, that the pessimistic and critical statements of people who have little interest in the situation other than the possibility of being able to handle in the future, as middle men, larger quantities of grain for the farmer, are made by those who are not the real friends of the farmer. I do not believe that even if the worst happened, the farmers of this country will ever again be content to return to the old system of marketing. I am more convinced than ever, as a result of my visit overseas, that that system is doomed, both here and elsewhere; and there can be no consolation in the present situation, to the people who would like to see a collapse so far as the co-operative organizations are concerned. If such a thing did happen within the next few years the consequences would be particularly disastrous to the old organized grain trade, because I have no doubt it would mean finally their complete elimination.

I want to express again an appreciation that I really cannot find words to express, for the unstinted, whole-hearted evidences of loyalty and support from the business men of this city, as well as other centres of the Province.

### \$250,000,000 TO STOCKHOLDERS

Approximately \$250,000,000 was paid in dividends to stock holders in Canadian corporations in 1929, according to an estimate based on actual disbursements of more than 500 securities listed on the Canadian stock exchanges and others widely held by the general public. During the year a number of bonuses or extra cash dividends were also paid. In the final three months of last year about \$10,000,000 was added to regular quarterly dividends.

### THRIFT AND THE POOR

The doctrine of thrift for the poor is dumb and cruel, like advising them to try and lift themselves by their bootstraps.—  
Norman Thomas

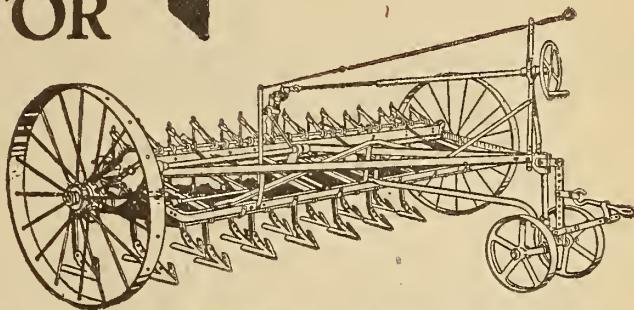
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## News and Comment from the Alberta Livestock Pool

The Lone Wolf—And Our Interdependence—A.C.L.P. Application for Two Stop-offs—Meetings of Shipping Associations—The U.F.A. Convention and Processing



By DONALD MacLEOD  
Secretary

"This is the law of the jungle  
As old and as true as the sky,  
And the wolf that shall keep it shall  
prosper  
But the wolf that shall break it shall  
die."

"As the ivy that girdles the tree trunk  
The law runneth forward and back  
For the strength of the pack is the wolf  
And the strength of the wolf is the  
pack."

—Kipling.

Under favorable conditions the lone wolf may be able to eke out an existence independent of its fellows, but, there comes a time when his very life is challenged through the lack of that collective strength which only lies within the pack.

Not so very long ago we of the Livestock Pool in Alberta thought that we could go sailing along without any concern about what was being done, or left undone, by the rest of Canada. Experience has now taught us how interdependent we are one upon another, and the close co-operation that now exists between us on all the markets between here and Montreal has had a tremendous influence on hog prices during the last six months.

Our various Co-operative organizations in this Province are still in their infancy, and it is perhaps quite human that each group should be so deeply wrapped up in the welfare of its own particular infant as to be more or less oblivious of the existence of any other.

Not one of our Pools will be an enduring success if the others lag too far behind.

\* \* \*

The application of the A.C.L.P. for two stop-offs, which came before the Board of Railway Commissioners at Calgary on March 18th, was of more than usual interest to our shipping associations. Mr. Chard, Provincial Freight Traffic Supervisor, presented our case very fully and filed with the Commissioners detailed statements from the Larwell and Castor-Coronation Associations, showing that owing to the present frequent and orderly marketing of livestock, the one stop-off privilege does not enable shippers to make full loads. A number of letters from several associations were also submitted in support of our application, and Mr. Chard contended that the present one stop-off was discriminatory, since Eastern Canada was not so limited respecting the shipment of livestock and several other commodities.

The railway companies were strongly represented by an array of legal and operating officials who quoted previous and very old rulings of the Railway Commissioners in support of their claim that the application of the Pool should not be granted.

The Commissioners manifested a keen interest in the whole matter. Decision was reserved but, if our judgment is any good, we are due to receive a favorable award.

The wheels of justice, or whatever they are, grind exceeding slow. This matter arose out of a resolution passed by the U.F.A. Convention two years ago, and

since then a mass of correspondence relating to it has passed between the Pool, the railway companies and the Board of Railway Commissioners.

One of the objections put forward by the railway companies was that a large amount of time was wasted in connection with stop-offs for which the present charge of \$3 did not compensate them. It was claimed by them that the shippers were not always on the spot to attend to the loading and that at times the train crew had to look for them all over town.

In all our personal experience we have never observed one instance that had even a remote relation to those conditions, but we must assume that the story is not made up of whole cloth.

In our own interest, and true to our gospel of Co-operation, we must see to it that if there are any delays they shall not be of our making.

\* \* \*

Might we, Mr. Editor, digress for a moment from matters bovine on this page to welcome the return to your pages of that "rural rube" known as James P. Watson.

We got quite a kick out of Jimmy's lamentations over the absence of "Wee Mac," not to mention the "bubbling Davy" and the "unwanted child."

\* \* \*

We understand that our Federal Department of Agriculture is about to launch a greater production campaign with particular reference to Livestock, etc.

We shall withhold judgment until we learn how this is to be accomplished, but we are curious to know whether our greater production friends are prepared to recognize the fact that the present spread in prices between producer and consumer is incompatible with greater production.

We are not prepared to say whether that unreasonable spread is the result of huge profits, waste in operation or costly competition, but it is there.

We are, therefore, prone to fear that this greater production bird, as our friend, C. L. Gibbs would say, will finally come to roost in the back yard of the primary producer.

\* \* \*

Now that the Central Board has got into its new harness and catalogued, so to speak, the tasks that lay before it, we find that organization work is as pressing as ever.

Mr. Claypool was present at a well attended meeting at Didsbury on March 20th.

Delegate McCoy gave a very complete and accurate report of the Annual Convention.

The meeting decided to form a Shipping Association and to elect a board of eight directors.

It was also decided to put on an aggressive sign-up campaign before first of April.

Our loyal members at Didsbury are now handling 75 per cent of the previous contract volume, and this seems a very favorable outcome of the rather unpleasant experience which they have had during the past year.

\* \* \*

The Ribstone Association held its annual meeting at Hardisty on March 20th.

The attendance was very gratifying, several members having travelled 25 miles in order to be present. Delegate Brockie submitted the report of the Annual Convention, after which a full board of directors was elected, with Mr. Brockie as President.

Mr. MacLeod, of the Central Board, gave a brief outline of the Pool's activities. From the enthusiasm manifested at the meeting, we feel that the Ribstone Association will greatly increase its numbers before the end of this year. It is proposed to extend the association from Killam to the Saskatchewan boundary.

\* \* \*

### STETTLER STRONG FOR PACKING PLANTS

Mr. A. B. Claypool,  
Edmonton, Alberta.

Dear Sir:

We wish to advise you that under the new Contract we have already 160 members signed up and who have subscribed for 266 shares in the Packing Plants. There are some 10 or 12 contracts outstanding which are not included in the above figures; these no doubt would account for an additional 20 shares.

In our estimation this sign-up is going over very nicely, when we take into consideration that under the old contract the membership was 168 members, and as it is early in the year we expect that it will be considerably more than this in the near future.

Yours very truly,

STETTLER DISTRICT FARMERS' LIVESTOCK MARKETING ASSOCIATION,

Per E. P. Johnson,

Secretary-Treasurer.

A series of meetings is being attended in the St. Paul district by Fred McDonald, second Vice-President, and J. H. Thompson, the new manager of the St. Paul Association. Jim is an experienced shipper and all who know his previous record are confident that he will make things go at St. Paul.

\* \* \*

The Central Board has been continuously criticized from a certain quarter during the past year as being desirous of rushing pell-mell into a processing policy without fully consulting the membership of our organization. Mr. Samis, of Mountain View Association, while addressing the delegates assembled at our last convention, reiterated those charges. The Board, however, was relieved of the task of answering its critics, as many delegates considered the charges very unfair.

Mr. Lovelock, of Alcomdale, pointed out that the pros and cons of processing have been discussed at the U. F. A. Conventions for many years past; that when the Livestock Pool was first formed it was thoroughly discussed and understood that processing was to be one of the Pool's early objectives; that the U.F.A. Convention of 1928 passed a resolution definitely urging the Pool to acquire processing facilities, and that the A. C. L. P. Convention, 12 months ago, had unanimously passed a resolution definitely committing the Central Board to enter into the processing business.

So, that's that!

\* \* \*

The burden of the Manager's report to the last Convention was that *larger volume means lower cost*; this means in the first place more contracts!

Now, then, let's hear what everybody has to say about the Livestock Pool. We are human enough to prefer praise, but let's have your opinion anyway. Criticisms and suggestions are invited.

## Britain Imports Less Beef, Pork and Bacon

A review of the British imported meat trade during 1929 shows very considerable decreases in beef, pork and bacon and a slight increase in mutton. The "Meat Trades" Journal states:

"The imports of beef, fresh, chilled, and frozen, last year amounted to 11,715,746 cwt., a decrease of 540,000 cwt. on the previous 12 months. Nearly 80 per cent of the total was chilled and 20 per cent frozen, the former being less by 260,000 cwt. and the latter by 243,000 cwt., while the import of fresh beef was only one half that of the previous year. Shipments from Argentina alone were 9,060,324 cwt., or 77 per cent of the aggregate. This was 352,000 cwt. less than the previous year, and two and a half million cwt. below that of 1927. Uruguay was the next largest sender, with a little over eight per cent, Australia a close third with eight per cent."

### Mutton and Lamb

"The imports of mutton and lamb, 5,653,979 cwt., were practically the same as the previous year, with Argentina and Australia making good the decreases from New Zealand and Uruguay. New Zealand contributed nearly half of the total, Argentina being second with 27 per cent, Australia third with ten per cent."

"The Irish Free State was the only sender of fresh pork, but unfortunately, her shipments were less by 91,000 cwt. The arrivals of frozen pork were on a

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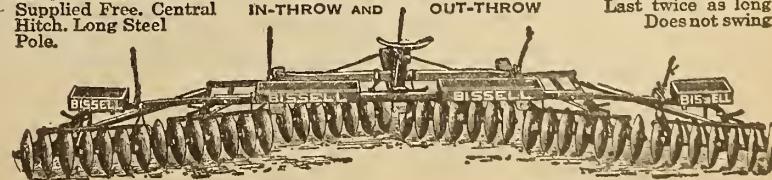
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Does not swing.



Sides can be detached, leaving a regular 14-ft. Disk, or can have sides furnished to make a 21-ft. We make In-throw and Out-throw Disks in 6-ft. to 21-ft. widths and Double Action from 6-ft. to 16-ft. wide.

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heavier scale than the previous year by nearly 50,000 cwt., New Zealand and Argentina sending larger supplies, particularly the former, whose contribution of 169,480 cwt. was more than half the total.

#### Bacon and Hams

"The imports of bacon were 571,463 cwt. less than those of the previous year. Denmark maintained her dominating position, her consignments again being 60 per cent of the aggregate. Holland was the second largest sender, with the United States third. The bill for this article is £43,760,297, an increase of £3,411,889 on the previous year. The Irish Free State bacon cost 112s. 2d., Danish 109s. 5d., Swedish 105s. 9d., Canadian 103s. 8d., 'other countries' 92s. 1d., and U.S.A. 90s. 9d. per cwt.

"The United States maintained its hold on the trade in hams, Canada and 'other countries' only contributing 19 per cent in a total of over a million cwt. The account for this item is £5,473,273, the average price being 106s. 4d., an increase of 8s. 6d. per cwt. on 1928.

"During the year not a single beast was landed from Canada, and only 692 head came from South Africa. The Irish Free State increased her figures by 25,000. Arrivals of livestock from across the Channel included 749,570 cattle, 584,631 sheep and lambs, and 311,102 pigs."

#### NEWS OF WHEAT POOL

(Continued from page 24)

marketing as drawn by the field man. Many questions were asked by the growers and good discussion brought out which took in a general review of world conditions affecting present prices and Pool methods of selling. A hearty invitation was extended the speakers to return again at an early date.

A Wheat Pool meeting was held in Forest Hills community hall near Charbonneau on March 6th with about a hundred in attendance. The principal speakers were George Bennett, director, J. P. Watson, field service man, and W. H. Boyle, manager of the Edmonton office. The farmers all expressed confidence in the Pool management and are ready to stand by the organization to the last ditch. Mr. Bennett and Mr. Watson answered a number of questions regarding Pool matters, and those who asked the questions were satisfied with the explanations given. Mr. Boyle spoke on the recent amendments to the Canada Grain Act, explaining the car order book and the grading of barley and oats.

## NEWS & VIEWS

Robt. Rankin, Vermilion.—Believe the Pool is doing the right thing to hold on.

D. A. McDougall, Greenshields.—Best wishes to the Pool in their struggle. Stay with it.

W. J. MacArthur, Waterhole.—I don't envy you your position this year, and although a very small producer, I wish to place on record my appreciation for the firm stand you have taken, and wish you a glorious vindication!

G. W. Pogson, Barrhead.—Times of crisis like the present call for what Kipling has named "the everlasting teamwork of every bloomin' soul" in our or-

ganization. When the slump came I saw that I could best help the Pool by keeping my own wheat in my own granary until the financial tension eased up a bit. It is all there now, and I have not hauled a bushel yet.

*Saskatchewan Farmer.*—If the pessimists will only keep quiet, the economics of the world wheat situation will bring about an adjustment of supply to demand. Pessimism is destructive of confidence without serving any useful purpose, and the gloomy ones will be well advised to talk to themselves in the quiet seclusion of their homes. They can do no good by talking in public.

Horace Dunster, of Chinook, Secretary-treasurer of the Clover Leaf Wheat Pool Local, has forwarded a resolution from that Local heartily endorsing the stand taken by the Pool in their fight for better prices for the Canadian farmers. Clover Leaf Wheat Pool Local is one of the largest Locals and also one of the most loyal. The resolution was passed at the regular meeting held March 15th.

United States Farm Board is planning on sending agents abroad to create a market for the wheat it has purchased. The board is making plans for the marketing of the next crop and Chairman Legge said that the greatest problem is storage facilities. The board holds more than 25 million bushels of wheat and this may be increased to one hundred million bushels before the winter crop is marketed next June.

A letter from E. Scholkoski of Ardrossan, states: "The Wheat Pool members of Wye have their meetings every week in different houses—they discuss business and social. February 18th, the Wye members went to meet the Bremner members at Bremner to hold a debate on whether it is best to buy on time or to pay cash. The decision was in favor of buying for cash, put forward with sufficient argument by Mr. Bailey.

J. L. Pugh, Hill Land Farm, Hope Valley.—I wish to inform you, that I approve of the policy you have followed in marketing of our wheat, and hope you will hold as much as possible till July, for I do not think we are going to have a very heavy crop this year. The Wheat Pool is the most economical way of marketing our wheat, and if we could eliminate the big spreads in the price of wheat, there would be no need of a compulsory pool. I hope our executive officers will try to obtain the assistance of other countries to this end. I believe it is in the best interest of the producer and consumer that we have a fairly stable price for our wheat. As I understand things, each country tries to keep its currency at par. Why not have an international conference to obtain this for our wheat? I think it could be done if all the producing and consuming countries would co-operate for this purpose".

#### TAKING NO CHANCES

Lady Driver (who has just knocked policeman down)—Can I do anything for you—I'm a doctor—"

Constable—Well, mum, if you sets a leg like you drives a car I'd rather be excused.

## Boys' and Girls' Column

Our new Indian booklet is creating a great deal of interest among young people who have received a copy.

The name of this booklet is "Meri-ka-chak—His Message" and it was written, illustrated and printed for the Manitoba Wheat Pool who are distributing it in their Province.

Meri-ka-chak means "friend of man" and his tribe is the Shan-a-macs, which means "the pull-togethers."

The Shan-a-macs lived away in the north, far beyond the lands of the Strong Woods Indians, beyond the Great River which carries the Dancing Lakes down to the Big Sea Water.

There, where the sweep of forest over dale and hill has never echoed to the footfall of the Paleface, where the birds and beavers of the Dancing Lakes have never been disturbed by the clatter of machines, this people has lived for generations.

All the secrets of the lakes and woods and rivers are known to the boys and girls. So well know they the simple secret of working together that they are called by the name of the Shan-a-macs.

On page 2 of the pamphlet we promise to tell further stories about the Great Chief and his wonderful tribe. These further stories will not be ready for some time, so do not write in and ask for them yet awhile. When they are ready we will send you one if you are already on our list.

A number of children have already received a copy of this booklet, Meri-ka-chak, and any who have not received one will get a copy if they write to the Publicity Department of the Alberta Wheat Pool, Calgary.

Edward Cook of Macleod, writes to say he likes this Indian booklet very much.

Lloyd Bittori, of Reid Hill, says the message of Meri-ka-chak is very interesting.

Phyllis Peterson, of Byemoor, says: "I received the very nice little Indian booklet you sent me. We think they are the nicest little poems and we enjoy reading them very much. I sent one of the other booklets to my little auntie and she says they are very nice and she likes to read them."

Barbara Matlock, of Champion, had written for two of these booklets as she plans on sending one to her grandfather in Washington.

Milie Chizen, of Egremont, writes as follows: "Since we get The U.F.A. every week I read in it that you are giving out Booklets to the Wheat Pool members. My father belongs to the Pool. I go to school. I am the fourth in the class. I am ten years old. I am in grade five. It is two miles for me to go to school. The name of our teacher is Miss May Onischuk. The name of our school is Ingleside. When it was cold in the winter we used to ride. I have two sisters and three brothers. Two of my brothers are in grade seven. It is pretty warm now and the roads are very muddy. I hope I see my letter in print in The U.F.A. magazine. And I hope I will receive one of your Pool Booklets."

Clarence A. Rains, of Pibroch, writes to say he thinks the story of Meri-ka-chak is just fine and he enjoyed reading it.

John McCarty, of Vegreville, also found the Indian booklet very interesting.

Balster Schmalz, of Beiseker, says his brothers and sisters and he himself likes to read about the Wheat Pool.

Dulcie Marie Peterson, of Byemoor, received a copy of Meri-ka-chak and read it through along with her sister. She writes that she asked her baby brother if he was going to be a Pool member and he said "Ya-ya—just like he was saying yes."

Esther Violet Johnson, of Heatherdown, sends us the following letter and clever little poem: "I received your last booklet on 'Meri-ka-chak. His Message.'



# Too many trees . . .

*The finest timber never grows in crowded sections. Nor is it possible to produce the best of anything else—including tractors—when too much is attempted. It is wiser to do a single thing well than to attempt many and sacrifice quality.*

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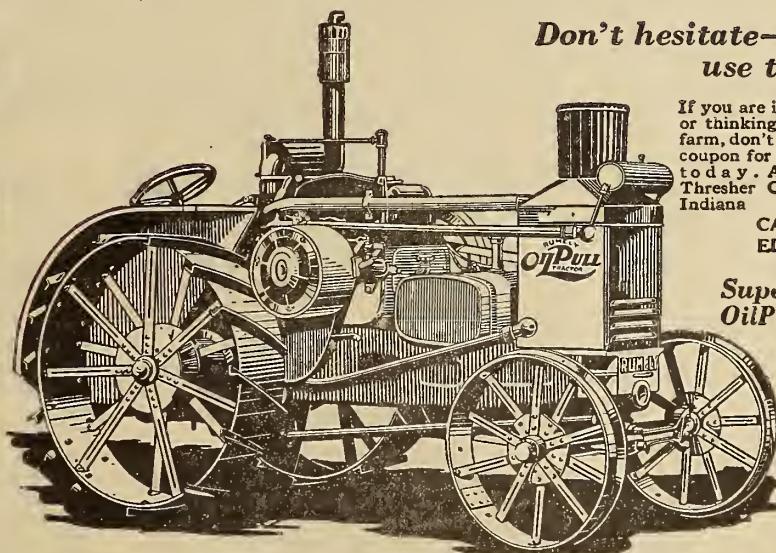
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and wish to hear more about him. I hope you will send me the rest of his message. I have written a few verses and their title is The Wheat Pool. They read like this:

#### THE WHEAT POOL AND MYSELF

I've read the Wheat Pool booklets  
With the greatest of enjoyment  
And I also read of how they helped  
The farmers with their payments.

I read of the great Indian chieftain  
Meri-ka-chak was his name,  
And how his tribe of Full-togethers  
Left a great undying fame.

I think that reading Wheat Pool stories  
Sure is lots of fun.  
They've also kept together  
Like the Indians have done.

I'm a young Wheat Pool member  
And I'm eleven years of age;  
I'm in grade six at our school—  
Its name is Pine Ridge.

My father's in the Wheat Pool  
And he reads *The U.F.A.*.  
He has joined the Wheat Pool  
For he thinks that it will pay.

The reason that the Wheat Pool  
Is so great this very day  
Is because they've kept together.  
That is all I've got to say.

#### LEGISLATURE (Continued from page 36)

Mr. Sparks, U.F.A., Wetaskiwin, said that the people of the city had been satisfied to have the charter as it stood in this particular for many years and felt that their will should prevail. Premier Brownlee was of the opinion that except some clause affected a fundamental right, the Legislature should not remove any against the will of the city council. Lorne Proudfoot, U.F.A., Acadia, stated that he was opposed to one man having more than one vote. When the count was taken it was shown that seven other members of the United Farmer group stood with him in that position, along with the three Labor members present.

The evening was largely taken up with the consideration of the bill "To Regulate the Working of Coal Mines." The document consisted of some fifty-nine pages covering 112 sections and schedules. The Premier desired to have some of the more contentious sections held over; so also did the Labor members, who by their close attention to the clauses of the bill gave a demonstration of the working of the group representation theory. The three men present, Messrs. Pattinson, Christophers and Smeaton, are members respectively for Edson, Rocky Mountain and Lethbridge, and are familiar at first hand with mining conditions. The Premier showed throughout an earnest desire to produce a workable act which will be an advance upon conditions prevailing hitherto in the coal industry.

## Assembly Considers the Gasoline Tax Act

EDMONTON, Mar. 18.—At the close of the session this afternoon, following the passing of the resolution on Government ownership and control of electrical power, the Assembly went into committee of the whole and considered the clauses of the Gasoline Tax Act.

A. Matheson, U.F.A., Vegreville, questioned the method of collecting the gaso-

line tax from users for industrial purposes. He thought it an unnecessary expense to set up machinery for the return of the four cents a gallon; and that there should be some way devised to enable farmers to pay the one cent per gallon in cash at the time of purchase instead of tying up the four cents till it was returned.

Premier Brownlee said that it appeared to be the only safe way of collecting the tax. Every Government known to him had adopted that method. Any other method would place the Government, with respect to the collection of this tax, at the mercy of the purchasers and the agents. He stated that the Department was now in a position to make the refund within a calendar month after the purchase. It was evident, said Mr. Brownlee, from the increase of applications for refund, that it was becoming more commonly understood that the act provided for this in the case of farmers and others using gasoline for industrial purposes.

The debates on the School Bill, which took place in part on March 19th, are dealt with elsewhere.

that miners had been receiving less than was their due for the past twenty years.

The Premier said that two different meetings with the mine inspectors had been held at which this had been discussed and it had been concluded that it was very difficult to get away from the measurement basis of payment on account of the conformation and construction of certain mines.

A number of details were left to be covered by regulations, including the matter of providing that ventilation to the amount of two hundred cubic feet of pure air per minute per person or animal in the workings shall be delivered "at the working face."

Mr. Christophers, backed by Mr. Pattinson, drew attention to the fact that in bituminous mines the presence of explosive gases at the working face rendered this provision absolutely necessary and mine operators for the protection of life and property saw to it that the pure air was so delivered. In the case of lignite mines, however, where the coal did not contain these gases and there was not that danger to life and property, "rooms" were sometimes driven into the seams three hundred feet without any cross passage, with the consequence that there was no circulation of pure air and the miner had to work day after day in atmosphere laden with smoke and dust.

Premier Brownlee agreed to look further into the matter and to provide as far as possible to cover this need in the regulations.

A section of the act as first drafted provided for greatly increased penalties for infraction, that for the case of owners being five hundred dollars maximum and in the case of employees one hundred dollars. These were cut down to two hundred and to fifty respectively and are still higher than under the existing statute.

## Mines Act Piloted Through Committee

#### Age Limit for Boys Working at Surface Raised

EDMONTON, March 20.—Many of the contentious clauses of the new Mines Act were finally disposed of by the Assembly sitting in Committee of the Whole this evening. Premier Brownlee in his capacity as Provincial Secretary piloted these clauses through the committee, having brought forward many amendments to meet objections of the Labor members made on the Monday previous. The Premier pointed out during the discussion of the clause dealing with the measurement of coal that the act was a great advance on the statute now in force, and that it was difficult to enact law that would operate with equal justice in all cases.

It was unanimously agreed to raise the age limit for boys employed on the surface from fourteen to sixteen years. This makes the minimum age for boy coal miners the same above as below ground, as the Labor members were defeated on Monday in their attempt to raise the below ground age limit from sixteen to eighteen.

P. M. Christophers, Labor member for Rocky Mountain, gave to the Assembly throughout the discussion the benefit of his more than forty years intimate knowledge of coal mining. He was assisted by Chris. Pattinson and by his leader, Fred White.

The Labor group were defeated in their effort to have the act changed so as to make payment by weight compulsory. They pointed out that whereas at one time there were only a few mines where payment was made by the cubic yard, that number had increased and there was danger of the whole mining industry being reduced to that basis of payment notwithstanding that the miners had put up a fight for payment by weight for many years.

Mr. Christophers stated that one large mine manager had admitted to him that twenty-seven cubic feet really weighed more than a ton. This being so meant

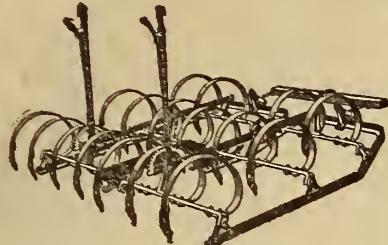
## Assembly Adjourns After Heavy Sitting

Brownlee to Confer With King re Resources Before Legislature Reassembles

EDMONTON, March 21.—Grinding away till forty-five minutes past the usual hour, the Assembly, with almost a full complement of members at work, put through the legislative mill this afternoon a big grist of new law. Just prior to six o'clock the Sergeant-at-Arms was seen to be somewhat uneasily moving around and looking anxiously towards the main door of the Chamber, as Milton McKeen, the Deputy Speaker, guided the Committee of the Whole through the first few sections of the New School Act. Hon. Perren Baker was so intent upon the consummation of his work of many months that he failed to note the Legislature was entering formal session, till the doors were flung open and all eyes turned in that direction, as the Sergeant announced: "His Honor the Lieutenant Governor." The Assembly was afterwards adjourned until April 2, to enable Premier Brownlee to confer with Premier King upon certain matters relative to the Natural Resources Act.

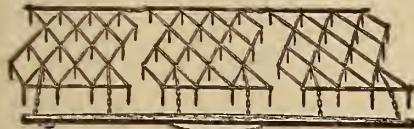
His Honor, from the chair upon the dais, gave assent to some thirty-seven bills which thereby become law, together with an act "Granting Supply Unto His Majesty," thus providing the necessary authority to spend monies for purposes of Government. The entrance and exit

# Cockshutt Disc and Drag Harrows



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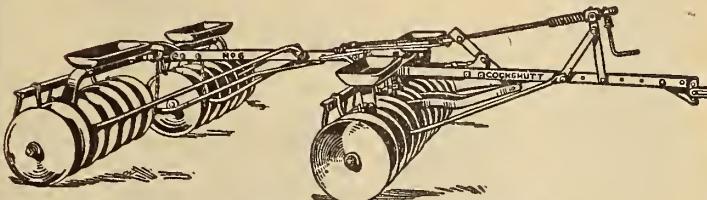
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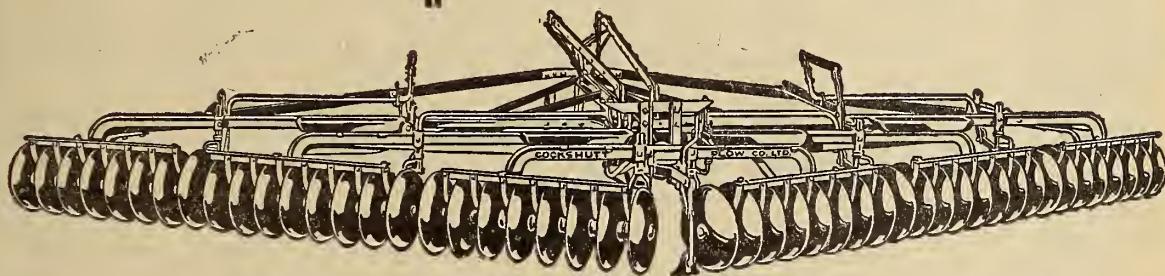
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of His Honor in civilian garb, preceded by an aide, in like dress and hatless, was devoid of that pomp which marks the formal opening and closing of the Legislature. The simple grey fedora of His Honor looked somewhat strange as, seated in the big chair, he raised it in assent and replaced it upon his head. The cockade of the more formal occasion seems to fit into the picture better.

The vice-regal visit was the one event of an otherwise monotonous afternoon. A long list of third readings is about as mechanical a process as could be devised. The steady rising and being seated in succession of the Clerk, a Minister, and Mr. Speaker, announcing the number of the bill, naming it, moving it, putting the question, receiving the assent, declaring it "now read the third time," provides little excitement.

#### PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE REPORTS

The work of the afternoon commenced with the report of the Public Accounts committee presented by Lorne Proudfoot in the absence of the chairman, Mr. Stringham. The report, which, while admitting irregularities in the Donatville case, recites the steps taken by the Government to rectify things when the attention of the Provincial Treasurer had been drawn to the matter, and placed no blame upon the Government, caused no discussion. George Webster, Liberal, Calgary, gave notice of debate upon the subject and was recognized by the Speaker.

Among the many acts passed was the Optometry Act, which had caused some discussion during committee. Hon. George Hoadley, who had presented the bill, withdrew the whole of Clause Two, which defines the practice of optometry and made it possible by a subsection respecting "ophthalmic lenses" that one requiring a magnifying glass of any kind might be charged with breaking the law unless he had first secured the necessary prescription from a person authorized under the laws of the Province to practice either optometry, medicine or surgery.

#### CHANCES IN CONSTITUENCIES ADOPTED.

The new Legislative Assembly Act passed without discussion, it being recognized, as W. Farquharson, U.F.A., Ribstone, said in answer to a question by Mr. Shaw, that if the matter of constituency boundaries were opened at all an interminable discussion would inevitably follow. Mr. Farquharson was chairman of the committee which after many labors presented the bill to the Assembly. Mr. Shaw regarded the double names in the cases of Okotoks-High River and Nanton-Claresholm as anomalous, and wondered if there was any thought of adopting the suggestion in the case of the former that the name be "Renfrew" after the incognito of the Prince of Wales, whose famous ranch is within the constituency. Mr. Hoadley said in reply that he had heard discussion of the name "Princeton"; but doubtless these matters would adjust themselves with time.

Mr. Duggan, while giving credit to the committee for having accomplished so much, thought that the terms of the resolution setting up the committee were too restrictive and that many injustices still existed. Though the two larger cities had received an additional member each, he said, the six cities of the Province were represented in the Assembly by only fourteen persons, and that the rural ridings had forty-six members, though out of a total vote of 123,247 the U.F.A.

had only polled 65,198 votes for forty members. He would arrange the ridings so as to provide greater equity; though he admitted that whatever the system of voting the farmer vote would dominate at the present stage of the development of the Province. He noted that the Premier had recently spoken of counties or larger areas of representation, and was convinced that the sooner this problem was approached and settled, the better for all concerned.

#### SHOULD CONSIDER AREA, STATES BUCKLEY

Mr. Duggan's remarks brought John Buckley, U.F.A., Gleichen, to his feet to remind the opposition that if any injustice had been done anyone by the bill it had been done to the U.F.A. members. The cities had been given extra members. Area should be considered as well as population. A city member could get into a street car and go with practically no expense and little loss of time to do the work of his constituency. Every rural representative travelled many miles at his own expense, which was not inconsiderable. He thought that a measure of justice might have been done in this respect at least if the indemnity of the city members had been cut to one-fourth of the present sum.

The Drumheller Charter held up the committee for quite a while. With the consent of Mr. Brownlee, the sum of \$10 which the bill proposed to substitute for \$4, as a poll tax for school purposes in the new ordinance, was reduced to \$6. It was pointed out by Mr. Claypool that the town had a population which fluctuated greatly and that the town council thought to make the transient elements of the population contribute more to the support of the schools, the mill rate for schools being at present .26. He stated that of the six councillors two were coal miners and one a railroad worker, and felt sure that working-class interests would be protected. He did not think the council would impose the maximum. Messrs. White and Smeaton contended that the period of residence rendering liability to the poll tax, should be raised from one month to two; and this was agreed; but they lost by one vote in their endeavour to have the amount kept at \$4.00. They were successful in their later motion for the intermediate sum, by a vote of more than four to one.

The contentious half-holiday clause held up the passing of the amendments to the Edmonton City Charter; and the Mines Act. was kept in committee; though an important decision was made with respect to the days of pay. Instead of the weekly pay day sought by the Labor members, a compromise was effected through an amendment of the Premier's setting the pay days as follows: For the first fifteen days of the month, on the 23rd day, for the days from the sixteenth to the end of the month, on the eighth day of the month succeeding, and on the preceding day when either of these days falls on a holiday, or Sunday.

#### ASSURANCES RE RESOURCES FROM PRIME MINISTER

After the Lieutenant-Governor had retired, members continued consideration of the New School Bill, allowing the contentious clauses to stand.

The Assembly then adjourned to assemble again on the afternoon of April 2nd to finish the work. Mr. Brownlee announced that he had had conversation over the phone with the Prime Minister, and had been assured that any benefits bestowed upon Saskatchewan by amendments to the Natural Resources Act,

which was being signed by the Dominion Government and forwarded to Saskatchewan that day, would also be given to Alberta. The Act would be signed by the Saskatchewan Government early in the following week and would then be made public.

In closing, Premier Brownlee stated that in addition to the delay caused by the Natural Resources Act, the adjournment had been made necessary by the illness of the Minister of Public Works, Hon. O. L. McPherson, having caused himself some additional work. The session would not continue more than two or three days when reconvened, and that would be as early as had been the case till two or three years ago.

## Reduced Rates on Seed

Reduced freight rates on seed grain are now effective between points in the Prairie Provinces. This means that seed will be transported for one-half of the regular tariff rates, provided that shippers and consignees will comply with all the regulations.

Registered seed will be eligible for rating under the tariff when the sacks are tagged and sealed by an inspector of the Dominion Seed Branch. As a matter of information to farmers, it may be stated that no seed should be termed "registered" until tagged and sealed by the Seed Branch.

Other seed will secure the benefits of this tariff only when a seed grade certificate issued by the Dominion Seed Branch is presented to the railway agent at the shipping point, together with a farmer's certificate signed by the U.F.A. Provincial Secretary and Secretary of the Local, assuring the railway company that the purchaser is a bona fide farmer.

The tariff further provides that seed other than registered will secure the seed rate when the sacks are sealed by the Seed Branch and a seed certificate is issued.

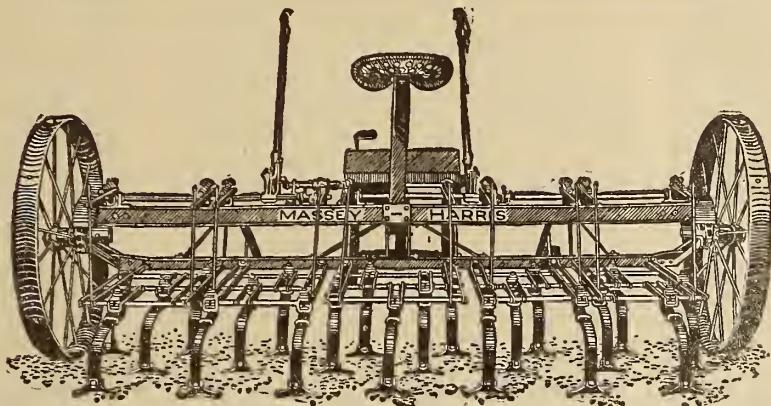
When a control sample certificate designates a sample "Rejected" it will be necessary to re-clean the seed and forward another sample. At least two weeks' time should be allowed for the germination of a sample. Control Sample Certificates showing only the germination are not sufficient as a complete seed grade is required.

*The rates will only be applied when the certificates required under the tariff are furnished BEFORE the delivery of the shipment at its destination. It is important to remember this, as there has been an impression in some instances that it would be all right to obtain the certificate after delivery. This is not the case. Claims for reduction charges and refund on presentation of certificates at a later date will not be entertained. Hence it is advisable that, in order to profit by the lower rates on seed grain, farmers arrange for the necessary certificates well in advance of the time they propose to ship seed.*

Seed Certificates are secured on representative one pound samples of grains submitted to the Dominion Seeds Branch, Immigration Building, Calgary. Samples of grass and clover seed should consist of four ounces. Any person can have three samples tested free. For each succeeding sample a charge of 50 cents is made for germination test, and 50 cents for purity analysis on cereal grains. Farmers' Seed Grain Freight Certificates can be obtained from U.F.A. Central Office. A charge of five cents each is made for this service.

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# Principle of New School Bill Endorsed by Legislature When Bill Passes Second Reading

Three Days' Debate on Measure Which Provides for Voluntary Plan to Set Up Large Divisional Area

## STAFF CORRESPONDENCE

**EDMONTON**, March 20.—After three days of debate, in the course of which one sitting of three hours was occupied to the full, the School Bill of the Minister of Education, Hon. Perren Baker, was given a second reading on Thursday, March 20. Mr. Baker, who has campaigned in the Province for the reform of rural education for considerably over a year, and found it necessary last year to withdraw his bill because of the division of public opinion, had the satisfaction of seeing the Assembly give assent to the principle of his reform measure, though modified in form from that of last year.

The main provision of the bill and that which is the chief subject of contention, is that which makes permissive the setting up of a large divisional area, comprising such a number of school districts as the Minister may decide, for purposes of appointing, superintending, supervising and paying teachers, thus leaving to the old rural school boards the functions of property control and general management of the school. The bill of last year would have imposed this system on the entire Province setting up twenty such divisions and making of the Province one taxing area having a common schedule for teachers' salaries.

Two attempts to shelve the bill for one year were defeated. An amendment was offered by D. M. Duggan, Conservative leader, at the close of the first day's debate, proposing that:

"The whole question of the law relating to schools, including the establishment of larger rural school district units, be referred to a commission to be appointed by the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council, and that this Assembly recommends that the personnel of the commission shall consist of one person to be nominated by the Minister of Education, one person to be nominated by the Alberta Trustees' Association and one person to be nominated by the Alberta Teachers' Alliance, and that such commission shall make its recommendations to the Minister of Education for consideration by the Legislative Assembly at the next Session of the Legislature."

On the second day, J. T. Shaw, Liberal leader, resumed the debate, offering an amendment to the amendment, proposing that the matter—

"Of the Local Administrative Unit for school purposes in Alberta be referred to a committee composed of representatives of the various parties in this Assembly, and in addition thereto, that one representative each be appointed by the Teachers' Alliance, the Trustees' Association, the United Farmers of Alberta and the Municipal Affairs Department, such committee to consider the whole question, and to make its recommendations for consideration by the Legislative Assembly at the next Session thereof."

The following members took part in the debate in addition, Hector Lang, C. L. Gibbs, Hon. Irene Parlby, Fred White, A. Matheson, Hon. George Hoadley, George Webster, W. H. Shields, Gordon Forster, Lorne Proudfoot, Hector

Mr. Baker's opening speech on the School Bill, in which he discussed the measure in detail, is printed in full on page 20.

Galbraith, and Col. Weaver. The Minister of Education showed himself master of the situation. No argument was advanced for which he had not ready a sufficient and effective answer. The principle of the bill having now been recognized it will be analyzed in committee, where it received a cursory survey in the last hour before adjournment.

Hector Lang, Liberal member for Medicine Hat, whose interest as an ex-teacher in the subject of education has been marked since he first entered the Legislature last session, regretted that the bill had been introduced so late in the session. Last session's bill of which this was a modification had been discussed freely throughout the Province; and he believed that the Government should have made known the changes proposed in the new bill so that the members could have given them careful scrutiny and have discussed them with their constituents.

Premier Brownlee: The Government is quite ready to stay here a week or ten days if my honorable friend wishes.

Mr. Lang, continuing, stated that he would like to have seen the bill referred to a committee of the Assembly in which amendments might have been suggested which would have made the bill satisfactory to all. The general board of last year's bill had been abandoned, which he thought wise; but he noted that the Province-wide taxing area and salary schedules had been omitted, which was significant. The U.F.A. had endorsed the principles of the 1929 bill; and he believed that the salary schedule would be a good thing if applied. Of the major reforms proposed in last year's bill only that of increased supervision remained.

Mr. Baker: There is provision for a salary schedule in each proposed division.

Mr. Lang: Yes! but it is necessary first to set up the large division, which the people have not yet approved.

Mr. Baker: Has the one general taxing area met with approval?

Mr. Lang: Unless the people accept the division we are at the same place where we were two years ago.

## CLAIMS OPTIONAL SYSTEMS UNSUCCESSFUL

The member went on to say that optional systems of educational administration had not been a success where tried. In Manitoba one municipal district had adopted the municipalized school system eleven years ago, but had not been followed by others. He believed that the electors would look askance at a scheme not considered of sufficient merit to be applied to the whole Province. There might, of course, be marginal areas where it was difficult to keep schools open.

If the divisions were allowed to engage their own superintendents and supervisors there might be a greater willingness to try out the Minister's proposals,

said the member; but even at that there would be the danger of erecting many differing systems. Some would have one supervisor and others two, etc.

Mr. Lang avowed his belief that until an act could be evolved that would meet the general approval of trustees, electors and teachers, the Minister should proceed with the plan, which he noted had been adopted within the past year, of increasing inspections and school grants.

Mr. Baker: How would the honorable member effect a Province-wide salary schedule and retain the rural trustee boards?

Mr. Lang: I am not an expert; but I think if I had a little time I could work it out. (Much laughter in all parts of the chamber.)

## GIBBS GIVES VIEWS ON BILL

C. L. Gibbs, Labor, who is a teacher in the Edmonton Technical School, stated that he would support the second reading of the bill. He congratulated the Minister upon his courage in continuing to propagate the idea that the small school district is "archaic, outworn and inefficient." He could not help thinking, however, that Mr. Baker had surrendered much in his endeavor to meet objections. He still seemed wedded to the larger areas, but had made them permissive. He noted that Mr. Baker had retained the appointing of the superintendents and supervisors of the proposed larger divisions in the hands of the Department. He, Mr. Gibbs, contended that a piebald solution had been found for the conflict between the principle of centralization and that of local control. For his own part, he was convinced of the necessity of enlarging the area, but would not make it so large as to put it out of range of local needs. If, for instance, an area comprising some twelve to twenty local districts were set up and power given to them to appoint their own superintendents and supervisors, he thought the difficulty might be met.

The Minister of Education suggested at this point that in such an event the Department would still be under the necessity of providing inspection in addition to the work of superintendence and supervision carried on by the divisional board.

Mr. Gibbs thought that would be better than having the man responsible for efficiency pass upon his own work.

Discussion the member had had with teachers had brought him to the conclusion that the new bill was more in the nature of a consolidation of the Department of Education, a grasping for control on the part of the Minister, than a solution of the problem of rural education. Too many things were left indefinite and at the discretion of the Minister.

Mr. Gibbs urged the need for more security of tenure for the teacher. Even a backward state like Tennessee had brought in an act to provide that a teacher could not be dismissed without the charge or charges having been first preferred in writing. He was of the opinion

that the contract with the teacher should be a part of the bill.

In conclusion, Mr. Gibbs hoped that the Minister would continue his campaign for reform and would include under his functions that of promoting adult education. He hoped also that there would be a consistent attempt to produce a type of teacher who would also be able to assist the older people of the community to study. He believed that the Minister of Education could do much to promote the intellectual and spiritual development of the people of Alberta. He approved of the idea of offering the inducement of a special grant to those districts which were willing to undertake the experiment; and would aim at such an equalization as would make it possible for any district to participate.

#### DUGGAN COMPLIMENTS MINISTER.

The last speaker of Tuesday evening on the subject was the leader of the Conservative party, Mr. Duggan. He facetiously suggested that the House had just had the pleasure of listening to the future Ministers of Education of the Liberal and Labor parties, and that perhaps in the course of the debate they would later be favored by one from his own Minister (turning towards Col. Weaver).

Mr. Duggan thought that Mr. Baker would be remembered for years to come for his courageous espousal of educational reform. He, the member, had watched the progress of the Minister throughout the Province during the past two years and had noted that he had paid no attention to the political effects of the measure. It was not often that men were found ready to fight to the last ditch for their political convictions. To him, however, it was inconceivable that the brain which had devised the measure of 1929 should have produced this attenuated bill. It was weak where the other was strong.

Speaking for the Conservative party, Mr. Duggan held that the proposed larger divisions should not be too large and control should not be too remote. Mr. Gibbs had expressed the views of the Conservative party in these matters, which, when in his best form, he usually did. (Ironical laughter.) Speaking seriously, however, he felt that the passing of the present bill would impede progress. People would rest on their oars and say, "this is fine." He questioned whether any area would undertake to form a district, and in any case there would be lack of uniformity.

Before Mr. Duggan finally sat down after moving his amendment, Premier Brownlee drew from him the admission that the Conservative party was in favor of making the adoption of educational reform compulsory.

#### SHAW IN SARCASTIC VEIN.

When the debate was resumed on Wednesday afternoon, J. T. Shaw first twitted the members of the Farmer group for their "thunders of silence," then proceeded to say how all-important was the subject of education, and to complain that the Minister of Education, while professing to believe in co-operation, had denied him any opportunity to make a contribution to the solution of the problem. Mr. Shaw developed sarcasm. The Minister had three years ago asserted that the educational system was quite satisfactory. The next session, he, Mr. Shaw, had made certain proposals for reform and the Minister had been "somewhat concerned." Later he had realized

the "grave necessity" and would propose a bill at the next session. So the bill of 1929, sweeping in character, had been brought down. It had been withdrawn when opposition had developed and the Minister had taken a year to produce this bill, a bill which was "a floating spar of the shipwreck." Though denied hitherto any opportunity to make a contribution on this important matter, Mr. Shaw was not unwilling yet, he said, to try to fashion something which would be of value.

Mr. Shaw stated that he was not in favor of a commission, and was not in favor of the personnel proposed by Mr. Duggan. He, instead, would propose a committee of the Assembly together with other representatives of Provincial bodies. He suggested that the Minister was indebted for the ideas of the bill to the New Zealand plan, then contended that the Minister had given little more support to the rural school from the coffers of the Province than had been given by the former Liberal government. In 1919 the grants had aggregated \$1,250,000, and in 1930 the Minister proposed to set aside only \$1,379,545 for that purpose.

The Liberal leader held that the Minister compared unfavorably with the Liberal regime in provision for supervision. In 1921, there were 42 inspectors, while in 1930 there were only 30, and the number had been as low as 25. In 1921 there were three high school inspectors and now only two.

Several members: Yes, but more inspections.

Sam Brown, U.F.A., High River: Is not the method of travel different?

Mr. Shaw: Oh! Not so much. There were motor cars and aeroplanes in those days.

Many members: Yes, but no roads. (Laughter.)

Mr. Shaw again objected to the large division idea. The Minister selected the area and then if the vote was favorable the division was imposed. Would the Minister be governed by the total vote? Or, would he leave out the areas opposed?

The scheme to be really effective, Mr. Shaw contended, should appeal to the average area. Mr. Shaw avowed his sincerity in these matters. He was not concerned with the politics of the situation.

Answering a question from Mr. Gibbs as to whether he was prepared to shelve the whole question of education for another year, Mr. Shaw stated that he was willing to have the bill stay in the Legislature. The rest of the bill with minor exceptions was quite satisfactory.

#### BAKER PROVES IN FIGHTING TRIM.

Continuing the debate the Minister of Education stated that he had never sought credit for his Department in connection with this or the previous bill. He was only concerned to make progress in this important field of the life of the Province. He had cited his figures to show that progress. He reminded Mr. Shaw and the Assembly that progress did not depend upon the amount of money devoted from the Provincial Treasury. If the districts themselves, now more prosperous than formerly, devoted the money it was all the same. It did not matter where the money came from so long as the schools were running.

Mr. Baker was in fighting trim. "What would Mr. Shaw do," asked he, "if he were the Mussolini that I am reputed to be? What constructive suggestion has he to offer? Have more inspectors? Is

a plan for teachers' pensions the trump card he has kept up his sleeve?"

The Minister of Education stated that he, too, believed in pensions for teachers, but did not believe that they would give the results expected by some. Did the critics think that rural teaching would be made more attractive by deducting from the salary of young teachers a sum of thirty or forty dollars a year for pensions? "What we need to make rural teaching more attractive," said he, "is the bigger administrative unit."

"Cradled in the democracy of the rural school" says Mr. Shaw. "Yes! but we don't want to stay in the cradle forever. We want to get up and walk. As for inspectors," continued Mr. Baker, "what we want is not more inspection, but supervision."

Mr. Shaw was grieved, said the Minister, at the reception to his offers for help. He appeared to hold that a committee of the House was the only way to approach the problem; and if it was not adopted he would not work at all. What more wisdom could be evolved this way than had already been sought? All these bodies suggested had been amply consulted already. They did not agree within themselves. Some favored the large unit, to others it was anathema. "Piebald solution," said Mr. Gibbs. What would it be if it took in all the ideas advanced by all these bodies and all corners of the Assembly? And even if the committee reached agreement, the country would be no more a unit on the matter than was the case with the bill of last year. The Government had worked out a solution to the problem and the resultant bill was before the Assembly.

Mrs. Parlby reminded the Assembly that the bill's essential features had been before the country something over a year. She had listened to the criticisms of the leader of the Liberal party for nearly an hour and had found nothing new. The Farmer group believed sincerely and honestly in democracy and had shown it last year by withdrawing the bill. She saw again the party system at work. The discussion of the afternoon had been an effective illustration of the futility of a committee such as was proposed. The Labor party had made constructive suggestions and had said, "Go ahead." The Assembly was composed of representatives of the people who were supposed to know what the country needed. She thought that they could embody that knowledge in the present bill.

Mr. Duggan, speaking to the amendment, said that he would not object to Mr. Shaw's amendment, in fact would welcome the inclusion of the Department of Municipal Affairs, if the clause concerning the divisional area were eliminated and machinery set up to consider it.

Mr. White said that he thought the Government should state its position in the event of the amendment being carried. He and his group were anxious that the bill should go into committee. He was opposed to the optional element in the bill, and thought that definite steps should be taken to set up a larger unit of administration.

Archie Matheson said that he had heard the contention that education was "languishing" in Alberta, and he denied it. He believed in the Legislature performing its own functions. Members should know what reform was needed and where.

Mr. Gibbs did not believe in giving the bill a hoist. It was essential that there should be revision of the School Act. He

## SPEAKS IN DEBATE



A. M. MATHESON, M.L.A.

believed that there was merit, however, in Mr. Shaw's idea of a committee.

Upon the question being called, Mr. Hadley raised a point of procedure and received the ruling of the Speaker that should the amendment carry, it "would be competent for the Minister to again move immediately the second reading of the bill." He suggested that the amendments be withdrawn.

George Webster declared his anxiety to have the measure proceed. He was disappointed at the position taken by the Ministers, especially with that of the lady member for Lacombe.

## WOULD HAVE DIVISIONAL BOARD CONTROL SUPERVISOR

W. H. Shield stated that there had been many opportunities to try to overcome the defects of the educational system. The consolidation system was one of these attempts. It, too, had its defects. This bill was another attempt. There was nothing inherently defective in rural education. He felt that the country owed a great debt of gratitude to the rural school teacher. It was very creditable that they had brought out scholars of such high standing. The defects of the small unit had been well summed up, said Mr. Shield; but it had been concluded that to interfere with local self government was a big problem. He believed that the supervisor should be appointed by and under the control of the divisional board.

Gordon Forster, of Handhills, noted that all the opposition to the bill came from the city members with the exception of Mr. Shaw, the member for Bow Valley. The proposed amendments would delay the time when the country child would have similar privileges to those of the city.

## LORNE PROUDFOOT EXPRESSES VIEWS

Lorne Proudfoot supported the idea of the larger division, but urged that "a more gradual approach be made in the exercise of the voluntary principle." If the divisional board were set up and en-

gaged teachers, established a salary schedule, and raised the salaries of teachers, it would then, and then only, be time to make available the special grants proposed. He believed that many would have accepted the principle of the bill in mandatory form.

Hector Galbraith, Nanton, reminded the Assembly that power farming was depopulating rural areas. It was an affront to the intelligence of rural people to think it necessary to force progress upon them. He favored the voluntary principle of the bill.

The vote was then taken, resulting in thirteen for Mr. Shaw's amendment and thirty-seven against.

Speaking on the second amendment, Col. Weaver avowed his belief in responsible government. He did not believe in Government throwing up its hands and passing on its responsibilities to the people.

## MINISTER CLOSES DEBATE

Closing the debate on Thursday in a speech of nearly an hour's length, Mr. Baker covered the ground of objection raised. He noted some important points of argument. One was that the rural school is an important part of the school system, and is capable of improvement; and another that there is need of a larger unit of administration. England, Scotland, New Zealand and Australia had all within recent years adopted the larger unit and efforts were being made in this direction in every Province in Canada. The case of Missouri cited by Mr. Shaw was not an argument against the larger unit, but against premature legislation. The question was: What unit? In New Zealand it was the state, in Manitoba the Municipality, in the United States the county, in England the borough and county. No scheme would work perfectly. He would not do away with the local district. The people were organized around it.

The present school bill neither added to nor took away any rights in reference to religious instruction. The people of Alberta had so far lived in comparative peace on these matters; and he could not look with other than the gravest concern on any movement which did not take cognizance of these facts. The bill was designed to work towards the advantages of the larger unit without destroying the local one.

Mr. Baker drew the attention of the Assembly to the fact that no size of unit was mentioned in the bill nor had been mentioned in the bill of 1929. He proposed a district large enough to usefully employ one superintendent and two supervisors. The present municipal areas, for instance, were too small and the boundaries were not co-terminous with those of the school districts.

Mr. Baker contended that the bill did not give any new powers to the Minister. It was true that the act read "subject to the approval of the Minister" in a good many places; but in practice there was little occasion for the exercise of that authority. It was, however, part of the law of the Province since territorial days and was a provision for elasticity which was necessary. He contended with respect to the authority of the department over the proposed superintendents and supervisors that there should not be a complete divorcing of the department from the local authority. These officers would not be thrust on the division. There would be the closest co-operation. In answer to the suggestion of Mr. Gibbs that inspectors could provide the neces-

## SPEAKS IN DEBATE



LORNE PROUDFOOT, M.L.A.

sary contact, Mr. Baker thought it unnecessary to burden the taxpayer by a multiplication of officers.

## PREPARING FOR EXHIBITION

Plans for holding the World's Grain Exhibition and Conference in Regina, July 25th to August 6th, 1932, are already well advanced. Invitations to many countries of the world to participate in the event have been sent by the Canadian Government and it is expected that leading scientific and practical agriculturists will be present from all over the world.

Competitive classes have been provided for cereals, grasses, clovers, and vegetable seeds, which it is hoped will result in bringing together the finest collection of these seeds ever placed on exhibition. Over \$200,000 is to be offered in cash prizes. In some classes as many as fifty prizes will be awarded. These classes will be supplemented by educational displays staged by the Government of Canada and Provincial governments, and probably by several other countries.

The Conference will be of particular importance to the producers of crops and research workers the world over. The greatest and best known experts from all countries will be gathered together for the purpose of giving their experiences and leading discussion.

## Correspondence

TO SAFEGUARD FEED SUPPLY  
Editor, The U.F.A.:

While travelling through the Western Provinces this past few weeks I could not help but notice an apparent general shortage of feed on the farms, as viewed from the two railway systems. With many the only remedy available was an appeal to the Governments concerned for assistance in the form of feed, hay and grain. As one who enjoyed (?) this aid after the dry season of 1914, I found it a difficult

thing retiring the indebtedness incurred, and to cut a long story short, looked for a remedy.

The writer tried Western Rye, Brome, Timothy, Alfalfa, and finally Sweet Clover. In this last legume salvation is to be found. Even in the driest season it flourishes, and if properly handled is palatable to the stock, and will not volunteer. In my experience the best method is to sow same on summerfallow stubble immediately after sowing the grain. During the first year it will not grow high enough to interfere with combining, and if harvesting with the binder method, will cure in the butts of the sheaves and make excellent feed—also excellent grazing the first fall.

In the second year of its growth, the land being due for summerfallowing, it should be the practice to reserve as much acreage for hay as may be necessary and the balance plowed under as a soilings crop. When the part reserved for hay has been cleared, this also should be plowed at once to prevent any later growth going to seed.

If the season is dry as in many parts in 1929 season, reserve the whole area for hay for use or sale, taking off the first crop only, end of June, and then summerfallow.

There are further advantages: (1) the land will have been vastly enriched by the nitrogen, and green matter plowed under; (2) soil drifting checked.

O. J. HOPKINS,  
Anerley, Saskatchewan.

#### SUGGESTS BY-LAWS

Editor, *The U.F.A.:*

I should appreciate a little space in *The U.F.A.* for the following suggested by-laws for consumers' co-operative associations. The by-laws are not complete, but are sufficient to indicate what I am driving at. I think the principles which they embody are sound, and I trust in all sincerity that Locals will not rush into being incorporated without seeing the bigger things beyond their local affairs:

1. To foster habits of making ready money the means of buying goods at the actual cost of service rendered.

2. The Association is registered under the Alberta Co-operative Association Act.

3. The number of members to be unlimited and the capital in the first place shall consist of loans from members at a given rate of interest not to exceed 6 per cent. This original capital to be paid back as soon as possible in the following manner which hereafter shall take its place.

4.  $\frac{1}{2}$  per cent additional cost added to the cost of service rendered; 2 per cent to go towards commercial reserve,  $\frac{1}{2}$  per cent to building fund, the said deductions to be placed to the credit of the members in proportion to their purchases either with or without paying interest at the discretion of the Directors.

5. The Directors to hold and retain said reserve for such a period that in their judgment will be beneficial for economic service, and when they decide to start to pay back they shall commence with the first year from the passing of these by-laws, in order that the members receiving the service pay for same.

6. The sale of all goods shall be on a non-profit basis. Any charges added in excess of the cost of service and the  $\frac{1}{2}$  per cent reserve, shall be divided amongst the members in proportion to their purchases from each department, which shall be kept separately.

7. The directors shall see that each member receives a statement of the amounts he or she has to his credit on the books of the Association once a year.

8. By a two-thirds majority, the members may in meeting assembled expressly called for that purpose, open up a New Department.

9. In order to qualify for a member with full voting powers, he or she must have purchased during the previous year at least \$100 worth of goods from the Association, further, he or she must covenant and agree to buy all goods sold by the Association which he or she requires as far as it is possible to do so, and that he or she signs a card furnished by the association to that effect.

B. C. LEES.

Edgerton, Alta., McCafferty U. F. A.  
Local.

#### U.F.W.A. HISTORY

Editor, *The U.F.A.:*

Just as Mr. Burnell called attention to some errors in your issue of January 15th regarding the early officers of the farmers' organization, I would like to correct a statement made at the same time concerning the U.F.W.A. The first Provincial president was Miss Jean C. Reed of Alix, not Mrs. Walter Parlby. We were then known as "The Woman's Auxiliary to the U.F.A." Miss Reed held office for one year, during which she did some valuable organization work. She was succeeded by Mrs. Parlby.

I would like to suggest to the organization as a whole that its history be compiled while the correct data is available. Only a few years have elapsed since both organizations began to function, yet already misinformation is abroad. We have initiated movements that will be recorded in the history of Canada. Let us see to it that our own records are accurate.

Yours very truly,

LEONA R. BARRITT,  
First Provincial Secretary U.F.W.A.  
Mirror, Alberta.

#### MILLING PROFITS

Editor, *The U.F.A.:*

The profits of the Canadian milling business have been the subject of discussion in some of the Farmers' Conventions during the past few months.

In the *Monthly Review* of the Bank of Nova Scotia for February, 1930, in the table illustrating the net earnings of Canadian Corporations from 1920 to 1928 inclusive, the table indicating the combined dividends on common stock and surplus the milling industry shows the highest in 1928 of any corporation listed.

The list covers the following companies: Lake of the Woods, Maple Leaf, Ogilvie's, St. Lawrence and the Western Canada Flour Mills Co.

It might do some of us good to frame this table and study it whenever we have any leisure moments.

Yours truly,

W. D. TREGO.

#### A RURAL SCHOOL PROBLEM

Editor, *The U.F.A.:*

At this date another teacher is leaving us, badgered into resigning by our local authorities.

I have resided in this school district not quite 10 years and in this time we have had eleven school teachers.



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or

513 McLeod Bldg., Edmonton

This calls to one's mind very forcibly the Hon. Perren Baker's speech wherein he says that "Alberta's youths and maidens pass in a constant stream before the eyes of our children."

Our school act surely needs revising. Nothing could be worse in its effect on the children's education and nothing can shake the morale of our teachers more than such a condition of affairs, and I sincerely hope that the time is here when control will be shifted from local hands and placed where it belongs, in the hands of those trained in such matters.

I am yours truly,

E. W. TERRY.

Tomahawk, Alta.

### POVERTY AMIDST PLENTY

Editor, *The U.F.A.*:

Only a short time ago I heard someone make the remark—"Poverty amongst plenty!"

I believe there is a tremendous lot of truth in the above statement. Never in history of the world was it comparative with present conditions. As we enter the store to our amazement we find shelves packed with dry goods, hardware, groceries, and other articles too numerous to mention. We see so many nice things we should have, the very necessities of life, yet our purchasing power of the dollar has dwindled to such an extent we receive just a mere existence. We, as farmers, come to market with our commodity, we must accept the price they pay us, it is no concern to the other party whether it be at cost of production, below, or otherwise. But when we come to the merchant or machine dealer, the price is set, we have only one course open to us, that is, pay the price asked.

Now, if the economical purchasing power of the farmer's dollar were the equivalent to that of other industries we should then be on parity, as it should be.

Statistics tell us one per cent own and control all the wealth that ninety-seven per cent produced. Only two per cent have comforts, no more. Ninety-seven per cent have little or nothing.

Now, dear reader, you can comprehend the underlying cause of all suffering of humanity, namely, "Poverty amongst plenty!"

Some one may ask how long will this state of affairs continue? Answer is this: Just so long as we farmers do not exercise our mental faculty that we are endowed with to support our own organization, the U. F. A. It is only in its infancy, which must be nursed along to maturity. It is up to you, me, and the other fellow, to make it what we want it to be.

F. COHN.

Pollockville, Alta.

### HOW MUCH DO WE PAY?

Editor, *The U.F.A.*:

I wonder if the idea of customs and excise has ever struck your readers as just the amount specified by the Government. If you care for the idea, I entertain that at a conservative estimate, by the time goods arrive to the consumer, the tax has increased 93 per cent.

For instance, a certain article has an excise tax of \$6 which is tacked onto the price of the article. The manufacturer wants say 25 per cent profit; the wholesaler 20 per cent; the retailer 30 per cent. Therefore, instead of \$6 tax to the consumer he pays \$11.70 *duty*, only \$6 of which go to the customs.

Again take a custom tax at 30 per cent ad valorem on say \$100 worth of

goods. Importer wants 25 per cent, wholesaler 25 per cent, and retailer 25 per cent profit. Because of a custom tax of \$30 we have to pay now \$28.60—that is a total of \$58.60. And so on ad infinitum. Not necessary to ask why wheat does not pay to grow.

Could not a means be devised whereby we pay the tax only and not a profit on it to the various middlemen? If legislation could be drawn up to counteract this insidious practice, so that we would pay the tax and the tax only instead of double the amount, well, believe me, it would sure help some.

W. HOGAN.

Blackfoot, Alta.

### TO DAIRY FARMERS

Calgary, Alta., Mar. 6, 1930.

Editor, *The U.F.A.*:

If we go back some twenty years or more to consider, what a majority of people then thought of life-insurance, it will greatly surprise us to make a comparison with present day ideas. At that time many people looked upon life-insurance as a means only, by which to defraud them of their possessions; others would not consider it, simply because they felt that they saw no returns, and then of course there were those who looked upon it as a downright sin to gamble with death, as they so expressed it. But today any sane person will consider life-insurance, and for that matter most other insurance, as the logical means of building up an estate, and for future security. Anyone today, who will raise opposition, or object to the principle of life-insurance, either could never have thought over the subject seriously, or is ruled by utterly selfish motives, without regard for their own family-relatives, or for their fellow-men.

I believe that I can safely say we are all agreed upon the advantage and blessings of life-insurance, but the purpose in bringing up the subject, was not to discuss it, as much as to use it for a comparison in our Pool topic.

#### Pool Movement as Insurance

I do not think that the Pool movement has ever before been viewed from a similar angle, but when everything is said, what else is the Pool, but a Sick-benefit and Life-insurance policy for the continuous welfare and growth of the institution, by which producers are assured of a share in the ultimate profits accruing from the sale or marketing of their own products.

You may possibly have looked askance on life-insurance once upon a time, or you may possibly take a pessimistic view of the present pool movement, but you can be sure that just as life insurance has proven a blessing to civilization, so will the pool movement eventually prove to be the vehicle to carry prosperity back to the farm, and increased returns for the produce of the land, without necessarily increasing the cost of living for those who pursue other trades.

There is no doubt about the success of the Wheat Pool; it is a proven fact today in spite of anything which has been said to the contrary, and we will therefore now turn our attention to the Dairy-Pool movement, which is really the aim of our discussion.

We have no quarrel with any of the privately owned companies, who all have furnished splendid service in building up of the industry, but it must be remembered, that all of these services since have been paid for in full. The plants which were founded all started up from

The Ontario Hydro-Electric Commission has spent \$8,523,191.20 on transmission from the Ottawa River to Toronto, according to Hon. J. R. Cook, hydro commissioner. The cost of the transmission lines was \$4,652,069.10.

small beginnings and were enlarged and added to as business expanded, paid for by the profits accumulated in the business, besides making their owners independently wealthy. With such an example before us, it should not cause any surprise if the producer at last should decide to enter the business and sell direct to the buyer and consumer of his products, and establish up-to-date manufacturing plants, without more additional cost than under the old system.

The shipper, who patronizes a privately owned creamery, unless offered some special inducement over and above the actual market-prices for his product, is no better off than the tenant in a rented house. In twenty years' time he has no more say in the place which he would call home than when he entered it; he has no more interest in the property than then and has nothing to show at the end of the term but a bunch of rent receipts. This is the point which we wish to drive home.

So long as you ship your product to a privately owned organization you are entirely under control of a single Eastern Corporation, you receive the market price, and that ends it. On the other hand, if you feel that you are a farmer and that you realize your welfare is so absolutely depending upon a prosperous country and a happy and contented population, you will co-operate with your fellowmen and support the institutions which are organized for mutual benefit, and the advantage of the farming communities.

#### Simple Common Sense

Man alive; it is only common sense. You receive the full market value for your product, but over and above that you are building up a separate interest for yourself, being a share-holder, which is as good as a savings account in the bank, in an enterprise on which you will receive the interest payments which now go to pay dividends elsewhere. Mind you, the Pool creameries or Co-operative Creameries are the coming plants, as a short cut to better farming conditions. They are operated for the farmer, by the farmer, with the object of mutual benefit to the producer and consumer alike.

I have tried to state concisely the advantages in the present Dairy Pool movement to the producer, and personally I know of which I speak, having practically grown up with the dairy industry in the Province. I started in with Mr. P. Pallesen in the Central Creameries in the year 1917, and have seen the business develop from a small concern to its present size.

Before closing my remarks, I wish to recount a conversation which took place a few years ago at one of the annual dairy conventions in Edmonton. The speaker was an independent operator at the time, and the pool topic had just been up for discussion. The pool idea, he said, would shortly override the countryside like a steam-roller, and when it did come, he added, "I am going to jump on because it will be a matter of self-preservation; Mon, I will rather be on top, than below it," and to-day he has proved the soundness of his judgment, both to hi-

own benefit, and for the good of his patrons.

For your own good, and the good of your fellow-producers, I am urging you to support the Dairy Pool. You will lose no money by it, and you will become a shareholder in your own concern, receiving your dividend on the basis of the extent of your support. It is your business, so why go elsewhere.

Yours truly,

WILLIAM J. A. VOSS,

Formerly Assistant Manager with P. Pallesen, of the Central Creameries, Ltd.

owned press. As a direct consequence, too, we shall be condemned to listen to Canadian programs which are mediocre or be forced to listen to the better programs of foreign corporations who can afford to so advertise their wares; and eventually to have no choice other than what a foreign people like to prescribe for our ears as they now do for our eyes and ears through the medium of the movie-talkie screen.

Listeners-in, get busy at once! Meet and pass your resolution and send it to Ottawa so that we may secure, for all time, the freedom of the radio channels of the air.

JAMES H. HODSON.

Nanpanton Farm, Wetaskiwin.

### ATTENTION RADIO LISTENERS

Editor, *The U.F.A.*:

I wish to call attention to the strong parliamentary lobby which is now in operation in Ottawa. A strong attack is being made against the Aird Radio Report, whose recommendations, if carried out, will ensure to the people of Canada freedom of the air with regard to Radio Broadcasting.

The lobby is in the interests of privately owned broadcasting stations the owners of which hope to monopolize the air to the exclusion of other interests than their own.

The importance of combatting the efforts of the lobby are made obvious when it is remembered that many stations are now owned by a string of newspapers and by corporations with enormous financial resources. The interests of these are not always the interests of the general public; but by the aid of their newspapers supplemented by the new medium of communication, propaganda is broadcast with a view of persuading the people otherwise.

If the radio listeners belonging to all U.F.A. Locals will constitute themselves a branch of "The Canadian Broadcast Listeners League" and pass suitable resolutions in favor of public ownership, control and operation of Broadcast Stations, along the lines recommended by the Aird Royal Commission and forward such resolutions to the Prime Minister, the Leader of the Opposition and to the local M.P., much will be done to preserve to the public a means of diffusion of views on matters which, for selfish financial interests, are now carefully withheld from the columns of a portion of the daily press.

We have now an opportunity of preserving the new form of radio communication to the public, and which under proper public ownership of stations and national control will be available for the enlightenment of our people by all who have anything of real importance to tell. The Aird Report, too, points the only way in which we can be assured of the highest class of Canadian entertainment. To achieve this it is absolutely necessary in our sparsely settled and enormous country to have national financial support through the agency of which suitably powerful stations can only be constructed and maintained.

I therefore urge all Radio Listeners to take prompt action so that the efforts of the Radio Lobby may be confounded. The alternative is Radio under privately owned monopoly with duplication and mediocre programs and studied propaganda.

If the lobby is successful in defeating the recommendations of the Aird Commission, we shall be deprived of hearing whatever the great financial interests choose to keep off the air as they now choose what we shall read in the privately

burden of debts. He may do so in time, but long before he does he will be old and badly crippled with various ills because of over-work and lack of proper care, that he could not afford for himself or his family. Is this to be the ultimate reward of patriotism from a country which claims ever-increasing prosperity? I am sure it cannot be intentional, but nevertheless the ill is there.

### Burden of Interest

Let us take the first clause alone—it is the one that really matters—that the loan be non-interest bearing. Does the average person or the Government realize the full significance of the hardship interest brings to bear on an otherwise honest, willing and industrious man? On an average good year, a settler can barely meet all his obligations; on a poor year he goes behind, because, the poorer the year the greater are his expenses. He must purchase far more on a poor crop year than he does on a good crop year. If two or three poor crop years follow one another, he is swamped under an accumulation of arrears, interest and taxes pile up at an alarming rate, and one or two good crop years are not enough to pull him out of his difficulties. By the time he begins to hope again, another poor crop comes along and flattens him out for another stretch of years. And so it goes.

Farming is not a get-rich-quick proposition. It offers a decent living to those who own their farm clear of incumbrance, but to those starting with borrowed capital, it is a hopeless case; but with no interest to accumulate, and a crop basis of payments, there is not a settler who could not pull out by paying for his farm.

JUST ANOTHER.

## U.F.A. Veterans' Section

### S.S.B. ACT

Editor, *The U.F.A.*:

It was with great interest and appreciation that I read of the resolution adopted at the last convention in regard to changes of the S.S.B. Act, namely, that all loans be non-interest bearing; that all annual payments be on one-third crop share basis; that absolute security of tenure be guaranteed so long as this condition is complied with.

To those who are not involved and who regard the settler as fortunate in having been able to secure this settlement loan, this may seem a lot to ask for; but to the settler who has struggled through ten years of heart-breaking hardships and disappointment, doing his level best to meet all his obligations, but yet surely and steadily losing ground in the face of relentless conditions, it comes as a beacon of hope, renewing lagging energy.

Going on as we have up to now, there is little hope; we are still faced with endless years of hardship and penury. Try as we may the odds are against us and the grim spectre of insecurity hovers above us, sapping our strength and courage with its threatening shadow.

Is this condition the result of the settlers' lack of ability, lack of courage, lack of energy? Surely not! Only the most unreasonable antagonist would make such a sweeping statement against the thousands of men who took up land under the S.S.B. scheme. Is it because the personnel of the Board have used unjust, or unnecessarily harsh methods towards the settler, making an abuse of their official authority? Absolutely not. To my knowledge they have always been honest towards the settler, making allowance for a settler's misfortune, and being lenient where leniency was deserved.

### Health Impaired

But this has not solved the settlers' problem; in fact, it has made it worse. If the settler had lost his farm in the first year or so, he would still have been able to take up some other occupation and make good at it, but after years of struggle and poverty on a farm his character, health and general ability have been so far impaired as to make it problematical whether he could again hold his own against other men, more youthful and better equipped to compete in the over-crowded labor market. Therefore, the only logical thing for him to do is to struggle on, hoping against hope to make good and crawl out from under his terrific

### Reward Wheat

The greatest promise for a continued profitable wheat production in the Prairie Provinces is in the production of wheat of such high milling quality that it will be in demand at a premium price on the world's markets, states F. H. Reed, superintendent of the Lacombe Experimental Station. The new variety, Reward, he declares, is the highest in milling qualities of any variety so far produced, being in some qualities superior even to the famous Marquis. Although not quite so heavy in yield as Marquis, Reward is a full week earlier, and one of the heaviest yielders of the early varieties. The yield has steadily increased as this variety has adapted itself to Alberta conditions, during the seven years in which it has been under test at the Lacombe Experimental Station. The straw is of excellent quality.

During 1928 and 1929 all the first prizes and championships at all the leading grain shows on the continent were won by Reward wheat. At the World's Grain Exhibition to be held at Regina in 1932, there will be two classes for hard red spring wheat, with 75 prizes ranging from \$2,500 to \$100 each. The majority of these prizes should come to Alberta farmers, in Mr. Reed's opinion, and those growing Reward would have a very great advantage. Wheat grown in 1930 and 1931 will be eligible.

The Lacombe Experimental Station has a considerable quantity of Certified Reward wheat for sale.

"Though I disagree with every word you say, I will defend with my life your right to say it."—Voltaire.

## LIGHTS ON ARMAMENTS RING

(Continued from page 8)

Light is thrown on the activities of Krups in Germany, a firm which counted fifty-two countries among its customers. Shortly before the outbreak of the Six Weeks War between Austria and Prussia, in direct defiance of Bismarck, Krupp sold guns to the Austrians, which were then used in the war to shoot down Krupp's own countrymen. France then became an esteemed customer, and Krupp was made an officer of the French Legion of Honor. Later a fusee patent was put in the possession of Vickers, in England, for which, after the war, Krupp claimed compensation to the tune of a shilling per fusee—more than £6,000,000! His wages for arming the enemy!

### Supplies for the Enemy

The English firms, Vickers and Armstrong, like Krups, also owed a large part of their business prosperity to foreign sales. Turkey was a good customer, and was so well supplied that during the war English soldiers in the Dardanelles were shot down with cannon that had been sold by England to Turkey. Had the English Tommies known that the shells thundering down on them from the Dardanelles forts were of good Vickers and Armstrong manufacture it might have added fuel to the fire of their patriotism. Their comrades at sea had the same experience when an English ship was sunk by a mine sold by England to Turkey.

In the years before the War the armament concerns had developed to an astounding degree of interwoven organization. At their head stood the three main groups: the English (Vickers, Armstrong), the German (Krupp, Stumm), and the French (Schneider-Creuzot). The Russian (Putilov) and the Italian (Terni) concerns, also the armament factories of other lands, were gradually bought up by the three leading groups.

Vickers founded the Vicker-Terni Society in Italy, and took over, together with Armstrong, half of the capital of the Japanese armament factories at Mutoran. The same English group acquired the Spanish "Naval Construction Establishment" at Ferrol, and founded the Portuguese Fleet Building Syndicate. Krupp formed close connections with the Austrian firm, Skoda, while the building of the Russian fleet after the Russo-Japanese War took place through the collaboration of British, French, German, Belgian and American firms.

### Expensive Sentimentalism

The armament manufacturer goes his way, making general capital out of other people's patriotism, but unburdened by such expensive sentimentalism himself. His business interests demand increased sales and higher profits; the one relieves him from a too finicky discrimination between his customers, and the other makes him an efficient organizer of rings and cartels in order to exact monopoly prices.

Thus we find, after the foundation of the two great French syndicates in 1898, the price per kilo of steel plate rose from 2.27f. to 2.95f.—a slight difference seeing that a dreadnought needs five million!

Krupps at one time came under the accusation of selling cheaper to the American than the German Government; the explanation being that they had got the monopoly in the German market, but had to meet competitive prices in America. International agreements for price fixing are legion.

Co-operation among armament manufacturers is further encouraged by the fact

that an increase in one country provokes a corresponding increase in another. To get the right atmosphere for this the newspapers can, if necessary, be drawn into service. In 1907 a number of articles appeared in different French newspapers at the instigation of the German *Waffen und Munitionsfabriken*, praising the superiority of the French machine guns and the consequent relatively higher efficiency of the French forces. The representative of the German firm then approached the German Government with these articles, and as a result an increase of German armaments was unanimously voted!

### The Part of the Banks

The Banks also can play a helpful role; on three occasions money lent by Austrian Banks to China was accompanied with the condition that a part of the money should be used in the purchase of arms of Austrian manufacture. If to this we were to add statistics as to what extent high Government officials are shareholders in armament firms and to what extent shares are held in foreign firms, we might get an adequate picture of the measure of patriotism in the armament industry.

Even the war itself did not put an end to these international relations. Though the Labor International had broken down, the Dynamite Trust International was still able to accommodate shareholders by an exchange of shares between England and Germany with the approval of the Governments on both

sides. Much more serious was the trading that still went on. German steel was imported through Switzerland into France to be used indirectly in the manufacture of French ammunitions, and Germany's urgent need for copper was in part supplied by England through Sweden.

Whatever was the position before the war, the characteristic features are all sharpened and intensified now. Change in the technique of war has tremendously increased the number of industries, at present perhaps manufacturing for only civil needs, but so equipped as to carry through a rapid adaptation for the production of war materials. The Government can more economically subsidize such industries than maintain expensive establishments itself.

### The Next War

A future war would draw into its production processes a wide range of industries: the heavy industries, iron, steel, coal; the chemical industries: poison gases and the oil-winning industry; the last of these earns millions from any extra fleet movements and would be a deciding factor in a future war.

All of these are highly trustified and drawn into price rings. It is these facts which do not enable one to be optimistic upon the constructive proposal with which the author closes his treatise. After the failure of the League of Nations to achieve anything material, he proposes the abolition of all profit in armament manufacture as the one measure to which all parties can subscribe and productive

## Join Up!

The Will-to-Power is a wonderful thing  
Possessed by the VERY FEW;  
And to keep this power in a nice small ring  
Where THEY shall be Lords of everything,  
Supreme in their power as any king,  
All freedom they therefore eschew.

But you and I know to our lasting regret  
(Provided you've studied this theme)  
That although we produce yet we still have to sweat  
And toil long hours, a bare living to get.  
We work hard to feed the whole world—and yet  
We get the milk, THEY the cream!

That there's surely no sense in this queer situation  
Perhaps you, too, will agree,  
And it surely is hard in a time of deflation  
When the price of farm products has gone to 'tarnation  
To say in a spirit of true approbation  
"Why yes, this system suits me."

For, mark you, my friends, and in this lies the kernel,  
You only get paid for your skill  
By a medium which (in a manner eternal)  
Stretches or shrinks, by some cause external,  
Now dollar, now six-bits, now four bits—the infernal  
Thing never is still.

Say you go to an agent and on time buy a plow,  
And wheat is a dollar that day,  
And it takes eighty bushels to pay for it now,  
Or three fat hogs, or a dairy cow;  
Then prices drop 'ere the note comes due  
And what do you have to pay?

Instead of the 'eighty' more likely it's true  
That a hundred won't cover the bill,  
Nor five fat hogs, nor one cow—nor two!  
So what does the "dollar" mean really to you  
When its purchasing power has gone all askew  
And you've hungry tummies to fill?

Let us study this question of money and credit  
To find what solution we may.  
Read up on the subject, and when you have read it  
Discuss with your neighbor proposals to mend it,  
And if the old system has earned you discredit,  
Join up with the old U.F.A.

N. V. FEARNEHOUGH.

of immediate relief. But the complicated connections of armament manufacture to-day, the impossibility of defining its limits, and its inclusion of a network of powerful interests whose opposition would not be lightly overcome, will, one surmises, compel the struggle to be fought out on wider issues.

### Clean Your Seed!

"As thou sowest, so shalt thou reap," wrote Cicero centuries ago, and biblical and mundane authors have kept this maxim of nature ever before us; and the moral is—You may not always be able to sow the best of seed but you can always sow clean seed.

Not only is it a well known fact that clean seed is a most effective method of weed control but experimental work by the Dominion Department of Agriculture and the Canadian Seed Growers' Association shows that clean seed pays.

The cleaning of seed is a practice which has been followed ever since man first began to plant, the methods ranging from the primitive to the ultra-modern. We are most of us familiar with the primitive practice of holding a measure of grain or seed shoulder-high and letting it drop to the floor, the breeze carrying the chaff along with it, leaving a pile of seed at the feet of the cleaner. We are also familiar with another primitive practice of float-testing many types of seed, particularly mangel and sugar beet.

The ultra-modern seed cleaning methods range from the Government seed cleaning plants at Moose Jaw, serving a part of the prairie area, to the adaptation of screens and sieves in the fanning mill.

The cleaner the seed the better its quality and while you may not be able to afford No. 1 clean seed always you can afford, and will be more than repaid, to see that the seed you use is clean.

### WARNS CHURCHES

"The Church in Russia has unfortunately, been identified for many years with the very forces of social and political tyranny which are now overthrown. It is inevitable that she should to a large extent suffer their fate. And that fate is a warning to all branches of the Church of the folly of supporting religion with artificial buttresses."—*Scots Observer and Church Weekly*, the organ of the Scottish Churches, Feb. 13th, 1930.

### HONEY FROM PRAIRIES

Of the 25,000,000 pounds of honey annually produced in Canada nearly one-third comes from the three prairie Provinces of Western Canada—Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta. In 1929 the total output in these three Provinces was 7,818,000 pounds, of which Manitoba produced 6,899,000 pounds from 2,856 apiaries, Alberta 514,000 pounds and Saskatchewan 400,000 pounds.

Only within the past few years has production of honey been given much attention on the prairie farms of Western Canada, but when it was found that bees could be worked in as a very profitable little cash side-line on the average farm honey production received a big impetus.

### NOBLE INSTINCT

"Buddie, how did you get that black eye?"

"I was protecting a little boy."  
"That's noble; who was he?"  
"Me."

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## Report of Canadian Council of Agriculture to U.F.A. Convention

**Secretary of Council Describes Fight Carried on Before Tariff Advisory Board—Sees Grave Danger in Tendency of Some Farmer Interests to Demand Protection**

Describing the steps which led to the reorganization of the Canadian Council of Agriculture during last year, and outlining the activities of the Council in 1929, a detailed report prepared by Arthur E. Darby, Secretary, was presented to the Annual Convention of the United Farmers of Alberta in January. Mr. Darby dealt in particular with the action taken in behalf of the Council at the sittings of the Advisory Tariff Board, at which he was constantly in attendance.

In accordance with established policy, he stated, the chief work had been carried on in connection with these sittings, and as far as finances had permitted, every effort had been made to protect the interests of the farming community in connection with the applications made to the Tariff Board and the inquiries instituted by it.

### A Grave Danger

"There is, however," the report continued, "a grave danger which cannot be ignored, of the Council's efforts in this respect being seriously hampered and the position of farmers in relation to tariff changes being impaired, by the demands arising for increased tariff protection of certain farm products. The chief of these concern fruits and vegetables, eggs and butter.

"What will be the position of the farmers in relation to the tariff if increased protection on these products is obtained? They will be precluded from opposing effectively the increase of protection for manufacturers. Since stimulation of farm production in Canada very quickly results in creating surpluses which must be exported, the increased protection will rapidly be neutralized, leaving the farmers to pay the enhanced subsidies to manufacturing industries out of profits no greater than before they entered upon the competition for protective duties. Nothing will please the protected interests in Canada more than persistence of farmers in these ill-advised demands.

"Agitation for protection of farm products is based on the desire to obtain higher prices for them, and to exclude competing imports. Hitherto farmers have looked to the reduction of production expenses and of the cost of living as the means of increasing the returns from their industry. Such reductions result from the operation of three main factors; first, the increase in their skill and efficiency as farmers; second, the development of co-operative marketing institutions in order to lessen the costs of distribution and secure for the producers themselves the profits previously paid to middlemen; and third, the removal of the burden thrown upon agriculture by unjust taxes and protective duties. The efficiency of farmers is being steadily increased by the introduction of machinery, by the prosecution of research work and experimentation, and by the improvement of facilities for technical education; and the degree in which farming efficiency is so increased depends largely upon the farmers individually. The adoption of co-operative marketing has already brought appreciable benefits, and the further application of co-operative meth-

ods may be relied upon to increase still more the savings to be obtained.

"The desired reforms in taxation and trade policies cannot, however, be achieved if the farmers listen to the specious arguments that they are entitled to artificial price increases and that equal protection ought to be accorded to agriculture and to manufacturing industries. Increase of prices by arbitrary interference with the natural courses of production and trade cannot bring permanent benefits and a protective tariff which will give equal protection to all cannot be devised. Protection is in essence a method of giving advantages to some industries and interests at the expense of all others. Too much insistence on increased prices is blinding our farmers to their own interests and causing them to neglect those means of increasing their profits and prosperity which are legitimately available to them.

"The Tariff Advisory Board has also had under review the iron and steel schedule in the tariff, and the requests for increased protection on many basic iron products. A lengthy inquiry touching every aspect of the iron industry in Canada has been conducted, the Council being represented at the hearings by the Secretary. In the later stages of this investigation a tendency was evinced to lay particular stress upon the magnitude of imports from the United States and the possibility of shutting them out in order to increase trade with Great Britain. The concern thus displayed by the Tariff Board in regard to future trade policies is greatly to be regretted. The usefulness of the Board depends upon the maintenance of an impartial attitude in the discovery of the facts about trade and industry. In the proportion that the Tariff Board undertakes to defend policies already adopted or to advocate, directly or by suggestion, the adoption of new policies, it must lose in prestige and public confidence. In stating to the Board the desire of the Canadian Council of Agriculture for the extension of the British Preference until free trade with Britain is attained and for the reduction, simultaneously, of the general tariff rates, the Secretary drew attention to the loss of public confidence which the Board would sustain by becoming a propagandist agency.

### Inconsistent with Peace Policy

"One other aspect of the tariff question remains to be considered. The United Farmers of Alberta and the Canadian Council of Agriculture have long demanded disarmament and the substitution of arbitration for war in the settlement of international differences. They have consistently demanded the abolition of war and the establishment of peace among the nations. In modern conditions a warfare as injurious and destructive as that of armies and navies can be carried on in the economic sphere. Such warfare even now is threatened. Protective tariffs are part of the economic armory with which that warfare is waged. International peace and national welfare alike demand that our efforts to abolish tariffs and to establish freedom of trade shall be maintained.

"Since your last Convention Canada has signified its acceptance of the optional clause in the statute establishing the permanent Court of International Justice. Canada has thus, with certain reservations, recognized as compulsory the submission to the World Court of disputes with other nations, also signatories to the clause with regard to the interpretation of treaties, questions of international law and breaches of international obligations. This is an important step towards the removal of possible causes of war. Surely persistence in commercial policies which increase the risk of economic, if not of physical, warfare is inconsistent with it.

"The policies which the Council has adopted in regard to various national questions have been advanced by presentation to the members of the Dominion Government and of Parliament, by articles in the press and such other means as have presented themselves. During the visit of Right Honorable J. H. Thomas to Winnipeg, for example, an opportunity occurred and was utilized to lay before him the views of the Council in regard to Imperial trade and immigration. It was impressed upon him that the farmers' organizations from time to time represented by the Council have long and consistently urged the increase of the British preference with the object of ultimately attaining free trade with Britain.

"In October last the position of the farmers in relation to taxation and their attitude towards the income and other taxes were presented to the Canadian Tax Conference held in Montreal under the auspices of the Citizens' Research Institute of Canada.

"The Secretary of the Council regards the reassertion in the strongest terms of the attitude of the farmers of the West in regard to the tariff policy of the Dominion as especially desirable at the present juncture."

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